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Issue No 127
Available from Wednesday,
March 3, 2010

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DREDGING DISPUTE THREATENS CREEK

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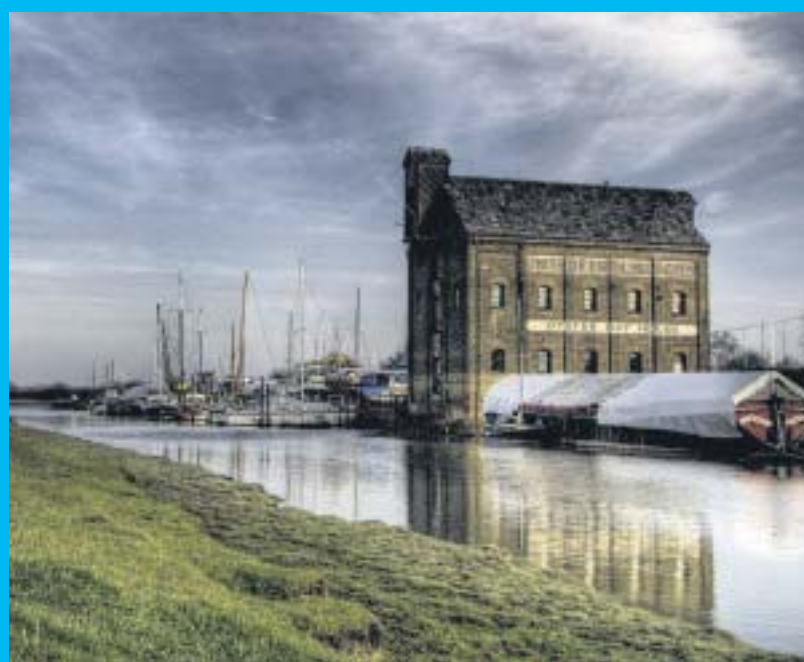
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THE TIDE OF HISTORY



This seemingly timeless scene could pass into history if the lack of commercial traffic and high cost of dredging leads to Faversham creek - a limb of the Cinque Ports - silting up, according to Swale council.

Picture MARTIN WHISKIN

EXCLUSIVE

BY JILL HURST

FAVERSHAM could "lose its creek for ever" unless a wrangle over dredging is sorted out, it has been claimed.

Medway port officials have admitted the future of the creek is not a priority and dredging may prove too expensive.

Without dredging, the harbour will never function properly and the dream of sailing the Cambria barge in and out of creek during the 2012 London Olympics could be scuppered.

Swale councillor Mike Cosgrove said: "The development of the creek is the most important positive move Faversham has seen for 40 years. If it fails, Faversham will lose its creek for ever and become a dead Cinque Port limb.

"We continue in discussions with the Medway Port Authority and are committed to finding a way to solve the dredging problems.

"While it is not our responsibility to monitor traffic we understand the volume has already increased over the past two years and will continue to do so.

"We hope Yourswale will be at the forefront of backing this process and help to rally businesses, organisations and the community in Faversham who are all essential to the success of the creek. The importance of this project cannot be overstated."

However Medway harbourmaster Catherine Spain said without an idea of future traffic it would be difficult to justify the costs involved.

She said: "Dredging the creek was never a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



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DeNiro still the daddy, says Drew

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 Printed by Archant Print
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Police lawfully shot man carrying plastic airgun

■ BY MARIJKE COX

A DEPRESSED man shot dead by police officers after brandishing a plastic Uzi submachine gun was killed lawfully, an inquest heard.

The verdict was returned by jurors at Gravesend Coroners Court following a week-long inquiry into the death of Dayniel Tucker, from Adisham Green in Sittingbourne.

The 39 year old was shot twice by two Kent firearms officers on Saturday, December 29, 2007, after pointing what appeared to be an Uzi submachine gun at them.

Despite later investigations revealing it was a plastic airgun, a jury found the officers were justified in using lethal force against Mr Tucker.

Independent Police Complaints Commissioner Mike Franklin said the events of that day have had a lasting effect on everyone involved.

"Mr Tucker's family and friends lost a loved one in tragic circumstances and the firearms officers have to live with the fact they shot and killed a man," he said.

He also stressed the gun used by the victim was described by a ballistics expert as having an "extremely close likeness to a real Uzi weapon".

Mr Franklin said: "Despite officers being equipped with tasers and baton rounds, the circumstances of this case did not allow them to create a situation where the use of less lethal weapons was an option."

Mr Tucker, a welder fabricator, suffered from depression and seasonal affective disorder and had attempted suicide in the past.

The night before his death he had been drinking in the Black Horse pub in Stanstead, Sevenoaks, where a barmaid described him as being

"deeply sad".

The following day he called 999 around 8.50am, saying there was a person on Tumblefield Road in Stanstead pointing a firearm at him. He then hung up.

Unarmed officers attending the scene searched for Mr Tucker and at 9.12am reported seeing a man with a "large bulge" in his top.

He ignored police when they approached him so they contacted the Force control room, also reporting a white Mitsubishi Colt – later discovered to be Mr Tucker's – parked in a field with a hosepipe running from the exhaust to the window.

When armed firearms officers arrived they shouted warnings to him, but Mr Tucker took what appeared to be an Uzi submachine gun out of his coat and pointed it at them.

Two officers fired their weapons, with one hitting him in the groin, and the other – the fatal shot – hitting him in the upper part of his chest.

He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Mr Tucker was described by those who knew him as "a good man, a loving uncle and caring godfather".

His close friend Joel Gifford, who attended the inquest, said: "It was a bolt out of the blue – he was really happy and had a lot going for him."

"When I first met him 10 years ago while working at Medway Galvanising he was a bit overweight and down – he was on anti-depressants.

"But after losing touch for a couple of years, my wife bumped into him and he'd completely changed.

"He'd lost all his weight and he wasn't on anti-depressants anymore – he was really happy.

"He liked a drink and smoked a bit of cannabis, but he went to work and paid the bills."



SHOT: Mr Tucker suffered from depression

Mr Gifford and his family moved into the same street as Mr Tucker and they became close with Mr Gifford asking his friend to be godfather to his son.

"He was really happy, but then he broke up with his long-term partner and he found out that his mum had died.

"But my wife tracked down his sister and they got in contact and he found out he had a niece and nephew."

Mr Gifford admitted his friend became down six months before his death after another relationship broke down, but he moved closer to his sister and things were looking up.

"Before he died he was so positive, he'd joined a dating agency and he had a lot going for him."

Mr Gifford's wife Joanne added: "We are still struggling to understand what happened, I don't suppose we ever will. We miss him."

Creek is silting up through lack of commercial traffic

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

problem when there was enough commercial traffic, but now it is silted up to such an extent that dredging is the only option.

"Agitation would be a cheaper option, but this is prohibited as it may stir up sediment which could enter the Swale which is a designated shellfish reserve.

"So how we proceed is debatable. Prior to dredging the Environmental Agency require a full appraisal of the methods to be used and this is extremely costly and runs to tens of thousands of pounds. We need to know the costs will be justified.

"Swale council has been unable to project how much traffic will use the creek, which makes it difficult to make a decision because if there is not enough traffic it will simply silt up again.

"The reduction of commercial traffic all over the region has resulted in many problems that need addressing and unless Swale council can say how much the creek will be used it's not at the top of our priority list."

Faversham MP Hugh Robertson said he hoped a compromise could be found.

"The creek is a unique and special asset and it is vital we utilise it for the benefit of the town.

"I would strongly encourage all the beneficial owners, interest groups and, crucially, the council to come together and lay out a deliverable strategy for its future."

To register your support for the development of Faversham Creek write to yoursware@kosmedia.co.uk or write the editor, Yoursware, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

Nurse in organ donor appeal

AN INTENSIVE care nurse from Sittingbourne is appealing for people to join the register of organ donors.

Richard Spooner made the plea as research carried showed that nearly everyone would accept a donated organ if they needed one but only 27 per cent have joined the register.

As a charge nurse at the Medway Maritime Hospital, organ donation has become even more poignant for Mr Spooner since losing his daughter, Rachael. He said: "Rachael sadly passed away in 2004 aged just 24 after a brain haemorrhage. For Jeannete, my wife, and myself it was a very simple decision to make as Rachael felt strongly about organ donation and she carried a donor card from the age of six. Knowing that we carried out Rachael's wishes gives us great comfort, as does knowing her loss has given life to others.

To find out more about organ donation visit the NHS website at www.organdonation.nhs.uk.



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Artists look elsewhere to attract an audience

EXCLUSIVE

BY JILL HURST

A LACK of interest in the arts in Swale has prompted local artists to stage an exhibition celebrating the borough's creative achievements in another district.

Swale Arts Forum (SAF) has chosen to forsake its home and stage its latest exhibition – a celebration of Swale's artistic talent – at the Horsebridge centre in Whitstable.

The decision follows a disappointing turn out at past events and the recent collapse of life drawing classes in Sittingbourne where only the model turned up.

SAF spokesman Sioux Peto said: "We worked really hard to set up the life drawing classes in Sittingbourne.

"We obtained the services of a good model and booked the Avenue Theatre as a venue. I went along and just the model turned up which was really disappointing."

The artists exhibiting at Whitstable hope that by going out of the area they can drum up more interest in the arts. Nine painters, four sculptors, one poet and two photographers will be involved in the 795 exhibition which starts on March 10.

"We are a really vibrant bunch of artists and we really want to engage as many people as possible but sometimes it's difficult to know what to do," said Ms Peto.

"There are about 25 of us now from all disci-



GALLERY: Swale Arts Forum is holding its exhibition at the Horsebridge Centre in Whitstable due to lack of local interest

plines including film, theatre and music and we meet regularly each month to discuss our work and how to share it with the community.

"The idea of the 795 exhibition came from artist Greg Read – it represents our dialling code. Our goal is to promote the work that goes on in our area and the Horsebridge Arts Centre attracts a higher viewing audience.

"We want to show the world that Swale has talent in abundance."

A spokesman for the arts at Swale council said: "We recognise there are good artists in the borough. While historically, there has been a pre-existing network of artists in Sheppey and

Faversham it may take some time to get the message through to the Sittingbourne community."

The exhibition will run from March 10 to 16.

To find out more visit www.polkadotac.co.uk/795.com. Swale artists meet at the Red Lion pub in Sittingbourne on the first Monday of each month from 8pm.

If you are interested in taking up life drawing classes email sioux@lbgraphics.co.uk.

■ What do you think? Does Swale lack culture, or is art simply not relevant? Email us at yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk, or write to Yourswale, Applebarn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, TN25 6SR.

Guard smuggled cannabis into jail

A PRISON officer has been jailed for 26 months after trying to smuggle a mobile phone and drugs into HMP Elmley.

Scott Price, 31, from Stiles Close, Minster, Isle of Sheppey, was arrested on August 17 last year when he arrived to work the night shift.

After a search prison staff found a phone and 3 grams of cannabis he was trying to take in for prisoners.

Price, who had worked at the prison for 10 years, also confessed to smuggling in phones, drugs and booze on three other occasions.

He told officers he was asked to carry the contraband by an accomplice who lives on the Isle of Sheppey, and was paid £500 a time.

Price was caught following a random search, with Kent Police and the Prison Service screening staff as they arrived for work as part of a new operation.

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■ Porchlight chief Mike Barrett talks about the 35-year history of the charity for the homeless

Drink driver is spared cell time

A DRINK driver found to be more than three times over the legal limit has narrowly avoided prison.

Katie Jane Wratten, of Primrose Lane in Sittingbourne, was convicted of drinking whilst over the limit after she was stopped on the A20 Ashford Road in Lenham.

Police found 118 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of her breath. The legal limit is 35.

The 42-year-old was disqualified from driving for three years and given a three-year conditional discharge.

Wratten, who appeared before Mid Kent Magistrates on February 22, was also ordered to pay court costs of £85.

Downpour causes flooding at homes

TWO houses in Minster-on-sea had to be pumped out after they were flooded by torrential rain.

Owners of the single-storey and two-storey properties in Power Station Road called emergency services at 11.42am on Sunday after becoming overwhelmed by the scale water entering the building.

Fire crews took more than three hours working alongside alongside the water board to pump the houses free of water.

Prison for stun-gun coke dealer after raid on home

A DRUG dealer from Sittingbourne who armed himself with a stun gun was sent to prison for 30 months.

Stephen Charlton, of Crown Quay Lane, pleaded guilty to possessing the Class A drug cocaine with intent to supply and for possessing a stun gun at Maidstone Crown Court on Monday, February 22.

The 29-year-old was caught red-handed when drugs cops stormed his home after a joint operation with the Sittingbourne neighbourhood policing team.

Neighbourhood police sergeant Jason Hedges said after the trial: "Cocaine has the potential to cause serious problems within our night-time economy and we have made it a priority to stamp out its use and come down hard on people dealing it.

"Many people see cocaine as a recreational drug but the harsh fact is, it is a Class A drug that ruins lives and the only people to profit from it are the dealers."

The judge sentenced Charlton to two years for drugs charges and six months for possessing a prohibited weapon. The lag was ordered to serve his sentences concurrently.

Sergeant Hedges added: "Charlton's sentence should serve as a strong deterrent to anyone thinking of dealing or using cocaine. The



RAID: Police stormed Stephen Charlton's home

fact that he will also spend an extra six months in prison for possessing a stun gun shows how seriously the court views owning this type of prohibited weapon"

Anyone who is suspicious drugs are being dealt should contact Sittingbourne Police on 01795 419119 or Crimestoppers confidentially on 0800 555111.

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GLASS ACT: Teynham-based Moor Organic Juice was named producer of the year at the Taste of Kent Awards

Moor the merrier after Kent award

SWALE producers and retailers dominated a countywide Oscars-style ceremony for the county's food industry last week.

Four out of 12 trophies were brought back to the borough from the Taste of Kent Awards, more than any other district in Kent.

Among the winners was The Butcher of Brogdale in Faversham, which won butcher of the year.

Producer of the year went to Moor Organic Juice based in Teynham, with the best local food retailer going to Macknade Fine Foods in Faversham. Also among the winners was Ashmore Cheese, made by The Cheesemakers of Canterbury, based in Dargate, which took the coveted prize of food product of the year.

Richard Castle, of Moor Organic Juice, said: "We are thrilled to be named producer of the year. "This is the first time we have entered the competition and were up against dozens of other Kentish juice producers.

"We have always taken pride in our juice, ensuring only the finest home-grown fruit gets pressed and bottled with nothing but care, dedication and skill, so it's good to know the public agree with us."

Macknade Fine Foods' Stefano Cuomo said: "The ceremony was fantastic, really well

■ BY JILL HURST

organised. It was a beautiful setting at Leeds Castle and a wonderful evening. There were so many Kentish producers there who sell through Macknade Fine Foods. This made winning extra special because the awards are based on public votes.

"If the quality isn't there, people won't buy the product. The fact there were so many Swale producers there demonstrates the high quality of produce and why people are so enthusiastic about it."

The awards recognise the very best products and producers in the region, together with the most outstanding retailers, restaurants, pubs and farmers' markets.

Three shortlisted hopefuls in each category waited nervously during the ceremony at Fairfax Hall, Leeds Castle, on Friday.

Some 10,000 votes were made by the public in the first round of the competition. The winners were then selected by a combination of mystery shoppers, mystery diners and expert judges to come up with a shortlist of 36 finalists.

For more information on the Taste of Kent awards, visit www.tastofkentawards.co.uk or www.producedinkent.co.uk.

yoursware

NEWS IN BRIEF

Village's potholes appeal

A PUBLIC campaign to get the potholes blighting roads in his village repaired has been launched by a councillor.

Borden's Cllr Nicholas Hampshire is asking villagers to contact him with details of damaged roads so he can compile a list for Kent County Council.

He said: "The recent snow and freezing temperatures have damaged road surfaces around the village of Borden.

"So I am able to ensure KCC is aware of this I am inviting residents to get in touch about potholes so I can compile a spreadsheet of defects.

"If residents are forthcoming with information it will help in getting repairs made to the roads as soon as possible."

To contact Cllr Hampshire, email nicholashampshire@hotmail.com or telephone 07739 108756.

Below inflation tax hike

COUNCIL tax rises for Swale were set below the rate of inflation, despite the authority being £5 million in the red.

Councillors opted for a 2.48 per cent rise which equates to about a penny a day for properties in the band D bracket.

Council leader Cllr Andrew Bowles said: "We will always seek a lower council tax level if possible. We have to tackle the financial issues facing local authorities now. It would be irresponsible to wait and see what the economy does."

The council has proposed a range of cuts to make up the three-year deficit which will see it trying to claw back £1.6m in the next financial year. Jobs are expected to be lost together with the loss or reduction in front line services.

Hospital suspect remanded

A MAN from Sittingbourne charged with theft from a hospital was remanded in custody after appearing before Maidstone magistrates.

Luke Darren Smith was charged with theft from Sittingbourne Memorial Hospital on Thursday, February 18.

The 36-year-old, from St John's Avenue, is due back in court on Monday.

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Good Lord, isn't that the Bishop?



BOTH God and groceries could be found at Sainsbury's in Sittingbourne as the new Bishop of Dover took to the aisles to meet his flock.

The Rt Rev Trevor Willmott met about 40 people in the supermarket's café, where they discussed a range of issues from religion in society to plans for community churches and schools.

While some shoppers were surprised to see the Bishop in the café, many enjoyed listening as he described how he found his faith as a teenager.

He said: "It was wonderful to meet people and hear what life is like in this community. I heard many encour-

aging stories of ways local churches are engaging with the community and I look forward to supporting this work and the people of Sittingbourne."

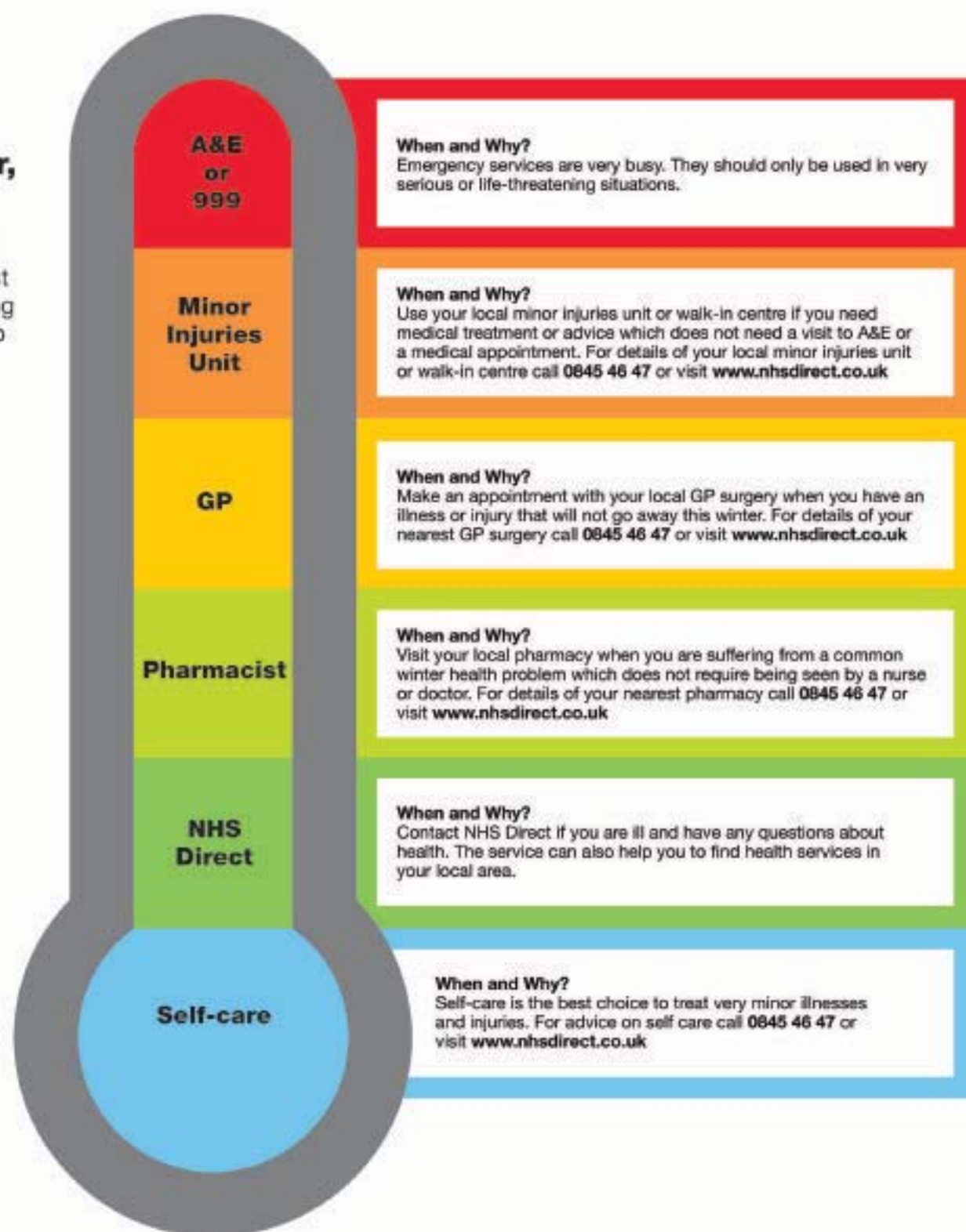
Earlier the Bishop visited the Sheppey Academy, where he ate a lunch cooked by students and enjoyed watching a drama, music and dance show staged in his honour.

He later visited the Isle of Sheppey prison cluster.

The Bishop of Dover has delegated responsibility from the Archbishop of Canterbury for the oversight of the Diocese of Canterbury.

He plans to visit all 16 deaneries, which stretch from Maidstone to the east coast, over the next two months.

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Radio crew win licence to serve the community

■ BY JILL HURST

THEY'VE been on the road entertaining listeners for nine long years but a Sittingbourne broadcasting group has finally won its campaign for a community radio licence.

SFM Radio was launched by four passionate men determined to keep an independent service in the town. Since conception, programme director Peter Flynn, along with his uncle, Terence Flynn and friends Sam Gillham and Paul James, have campaigned tirelessly for the station, providing a familiar presence at major events held in the town.

Peter Flynn said: "We are all still a little bit shell-shocked.

"We have received so many messages of support it's been a bit overwhelming. Over the years we've seen local broadcasters swallowed up by big businesses or squeezed into closure, but we were determined to get permission to launch a



24-hour service dedicated to the Sittingbourne community."

In order to qualify to be on air around the clock, the group had to broadcast for 28 days of each year. It costs £15,000 each time which Mr Flynn said was possible only with the help of more than 40 businesses in the town.

"We have been campaigning for the past nine years and we would like say thank you for all the help

received. However, the work doesn't end here and we need to bring our radio station to fruition, promoting our town and all that is happening."

With more than 20 volunteers, Mr Flynn said the aim was to be up and running by the end of the year. "There's a lot to do now. The future is very exciting. We need to find premises and set up a studio.

"We also need to work with local schools, groups and organisations to

get as much coverage as possible."

SFM Radio chairman Terence Flynn said: "We are delighted with the decision and optimistic that Ofcom's decision will prove to be a catalyst for the development of the town's latent potential."

If you would like to volunteer or to find out more about SFM Radio visit www.sfmradio.com, sign up to their facebook group or contact Peter Flynn on 07839 207327.

DETERMINED:
The crew of Swale FM hope they will have a 24-hour community service up and running by the end of the year

Could you help out at village fire station?

EASTCHURCH fire station is on the look-out for more retained firefighters.

Retained firefighters carry a pager for the duration of their on-call duties and as long as they are within five minutes of the station they can carry on their normal day-to-day activities.

Station manager Daren Jenner said: "The current team is made up of all ages and people from all walks of life, including builders, students and full-time mothers.

"You need to be fit and healthy and committed to taking part in a weekly drill yard night, when the team practice emergency response procedures."

For details call 01634 283554 or visit www.kent.fire-uk.org.

Forty years of service to town rewarded

A FORMER Mayor of Faversham has been honoured for more than 40 years of service to the town.

Bill Vaughan was given an engraved tanker at a presentation lunch at the Villa Toscana restaurant in East Street.

Mr Vaughan was a councillor and mayor on the old Faversham council, joining the new Swale council in 1974. He is an honorary alderman.

He has campaigned for many causes in the town and led the fight to save the Cottage Hospital in the 1980s and more recently took up office on the hop festival committee.

The award was presented by Labour party parliamentary candidate Angela Harrison.



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In the last three months Swale Community Safety Partnership has:

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yourlocalinterview

QUESTION & ANSWER

HENRY DAGG



Q Tell us a little about yourself

A I am a musician with a lifetime dedication to three aspects of music: composition, performing and the development of new instruments and sound-sculptures.

Q What is sound-sculpture and how did you get into it?

A Sound-sculpture can take a variety of forms, but in my work they are usually kinetic structures which produce sounds or music by visible mechanical means, often with an element of interactivity.

I began experimenting with sound at an early age, building electronic and mechanical equipment for generating and modifying sounds, later progressing to tape-manipulation and composing. Sound-sculpture was a natural progression.

Q What's the most inspiring piece of work you've undertaken and why?

A The work I've found most inspiring to date is my current commission from the English Folk Dance and Song Society, the Sharpsichord.

It's a harp which allows anyone to programme its mechanical memory to play whatever tune they want, by positioning pins in a cylinder, which is turned to play the music.

Building it was the least inspiring bit – a slow, tedious, endless grind. What's inspiring is

the quality of its tone and the process of programming it, which is a fairly slow but satisfying experience, leading to a performance which usually sends visitors into raptures.

Its universal appeal and effectiveness in performance with other musicians are the most inspiring aspects.

Q Were you brought up surrounded by music and art?

A My parents were classically trained musicians. I was trained on the cello, my sister Barbara on piano. I learnt to play the piano by ear and arranged Beatles songs as duets with her. I later took up electric bass.

The house was always full of classical music. My parents played in a wind quintet which rehearsed in our sitting room – though musical humour such as Gerard Hoffnung and Flanders and Swann were also a big influence.

Q Who are you inspired by and why?

A As a composer and musician I have always been inspired by interesting harmonic progressions typically found in the music of Rachmaninov, Bach and Delius.

John Baker, of the BBC Radiophonic Workshop, was



IN TUNE: College gates design

also a major influence and led to my joining the BBC in the hope of finding a place in the workshop.

In sound-sculpture I have been inspired by artists such as Jean Tinguely, the Baschet brothers, and the Victorian engineering vernacular best illustrated by William Heath Robinson. Harry Partch is an important influence in my instrument-building.

Q What do you do when you are not working?

A Sleep.

Q What book did you last read?

A The Blaze of Obscurity, by Clive James.

Q What music are you currently listening to?

A Chris Wood's A Handmade Life, The Quartet, Evan Parker, Robert Jarvis, and the new remix of Genesis's 1970s albums.

Q What are your goals for the future?

A To help create an appetite for and understanding of sound-sculpture in Britain, and to create a new family of electro-acoustic instruments with which to perform my own music in a live band.

Q & A

His next project is to create a set of musical gates for Rochester College, so **Jill Hurst** asked musician Henry Dagg what inspired him to become a sound-sculptor and how the Beatles helped him to learn the piano

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Window of opportunity for saving more energy

■ BY NICK AMES

A PETITION at the Downing Street website is urging the Government to introduce a scheme where householders could scrap poorly insulated windows in return for a £1,000 grant towards energy efficient ones.

According to the Energy Saving Trust, each household in Britain produces five-and-a-half tonnes of CO2 each year, a figure which could be cut by 1.5 tonnes if homes were more energy efficient. Measures to help people replace old boilers are in place, so campaigners say a similar move for windows is a logical next step.

The Government-backed car scrappage allowance, which gave drivers £2,000 off the cost of a new car when they traded in an old banger, was a huge success and boosted the economy during the recession.

The average cost of double glazing a typical three-bed semi is between £3,000 and £3,500, so a Government backed scheme would be a huge boost to homeowners.

And the trust claims the average household could save £135 a year on its heating bill.

One company backing the petition is Kent-



HOME AND HEARTH: Petition backs window scheme

based window and conservatory company Elephant.

Spokesman Duncan Barkes said: "We urge homeowners across Kent to sign this petition and send a message to the Government.

"The scrappage scheme benefited thousands and a similar initiative for double glazing would do the same. As well as boosting the economy it would also help the UK achieve its carbon emissions targets."

The petition is can be found at: <http://petitions.number10.gov.uk/windowscrappage> and is online until March 24.

Boiler voucher offers route to lower bills

PAVING the way for more energy efficient homes the Government has already made a decision to encourage householders to scrap their old boilers with a £400 voucher for a new energy efficient model.

Boiler manufacturers say this could save home owners huge amounts on their fuel bills.

But they add the choice in the market for efficient heating is now wide and householders may like to look beyond boilers for efficient and increasingly affordable solutions to keeping their home warm.

People aged over 60 might get a much larger discount under the Warm Front subsidy scheme than if they apply for the scrappage scheme.

British Gas offers a discount of £1,052 for over-60s under Warm Front but only £800 under the scrappage scheme.

Unique partnership with KCC legal team

LAWYERS at County Hall have teamed up with a private law firm to create one of the largest specialist public sector legal teams in the country.

The team, called Law:Public, will offer a range of services for public sector bodies and will handle local authority work at discounted rates.

More than 100 lawyers from the legal services department at Kent County Council and Midland and Wales-based law firm Geldards will make up the team.

KCC hopes the venture will save money by offering different rates for different jobs, and cheaper fees than private firms, with maximum charges of £150 an hour.

Geoff Wild, director of law and governance at KCC, said: "Collaboration across the public and private sectors is the way of the future.

"It ensures clients receive the best of both worlds – the cultural fit, expertise and value for money of the public sector, combined with the business drive, efficiency and skill set of the private sector.

"What we are offering is the ability to handle a large volume of work aligned to the highly specialised expertise at a price which we believe will save councils a substantial chunk of their legal budget."

The Kent Legal Services department already handles work for more than 200 public bodies.

The department is self-funding, and last year made about £1.5 million profit which was used for libraries, schools and other projects. The 12 district councils in Kent use their own legal teams unless a case is particularly specialised, where it is then tendered out to law firms.

With the new set-up, Law:Public is pitching for these tenders.

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Friday 12th March

Bad Pennies

The Red Lion, 1 King Street,
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Saturday 13th March

Jed

Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street,
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Saturday 13th March

Nearly Famous

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Friday 19th March

Where's my Thing

The Red Lion, 1 King Street,
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Saturday 20th March

Salvador Charlie

Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street,
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Saturday 20th March

Werther's Original

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Friday 26th March

Hazy Shade

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Ramsgate 01843 586713

Saturday 27th March

Left of the dial

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Broadstairs 01843 861108

Saturday 27th March

Lead Gremlin

The Red Lion, 1 King Street,
Ramsgate 01843 586713

Saturday 3rd April

EK1

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Saturday 3rd April

Fling

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County providing welcome haven to feathered friends



ON THE UP: Numbers of avocets have shown a healthy increase around Kent's coast during recent years – milder winters are thought to have benefited them

Picture: CHRIS COMERSALL (www.sph-images.com)

■ BY NICK AMES

A NEW report entitled Waterbirds In The UK 2007/08 has highlighted the importance of Kent as a winter destination for winged visitors.

Each winter this country sees the arrival of millions of waterbirds from the Arctic and northern Europe.

Dungeness, The Swale and the Medway estuary are all prime destinations in the county for thousands of birds.

Dungeness is listed in the report as being internationally important for two species, shoveler and mute swan. In the last five years the area and nearby Rye Bay supported an average of 36,165 birds.

Meanwhile, The Swale supported an average of 79,361 birds over the last five years, with black-tailed godwit, golden plover and pintail occurring in internationally important numbers.

The Medway has three species occurring in internationally important numbers – avocet, pintail and black-tailed godwit.

Over the last five years it has supported an average of 29,413 birds.

Dr Mark Avery, the RSPB's conservation director, said: "Two aspects of this long-running study really stand out.

"Firstly, that bird populations change over time and understanding this is critical to developing future conservation strategies.

"Secondly, that the UK's wetlands, and particularly those on the coast, are of enormous importance to the survival of a great number of waterbirds which migrate from many other countries.

"The protection and wise management of our wetlands is a priority to ensure that they continue to provide a lifeline to bird populations in the face of climate change."

Shifting

An analysis of the 50 most widespread winter-visiting wetland birds showed there had been some dramatic changes over the last decade – and emphasised the importance of protecting sites such as The Swale, the Medway and Dungeness in the face of a UK-wide decline in some species.

Birds faring the worst compared with a decade ago included ringed plover, pochard, bar-tailed godwit and Greenland white-fronted goose.

However, on a positive note, the five species recording the greatest increases over the period included little egret, whooper swan, black-tailed godwit, avocet and barnacle goose.

For some declining species, such as ringed plover and bar-tailed godwit, it seems they are shifting away from wintering in the UK, choosing instead to spend the winter in continental Europe.

Those species which have increased in numbers have been increasing for a variety of reasons.

Avocets are believed to have increased because of milder winters and targeted conservation action, while black-tailed godwits and whooper swans, which migrate from

Winged spectacle on your doorstep

DUNGENESS, The Swale and the Medway estuary all offer excellent opportunities to watch birds.

Viewing hides have been set up on Elmley Marshes RSPB reserve, while the unusually-named Horrid Hill at Riverside Country Park, near Gillingham, offers 360-degree views over the Medway estuary.

The expanse of mudflats and the wide skies contribute to the excellent viewing conditions and, despite its name, Horrid Hill is one of the most attractive sites in north Kent for birdwatchers.

Dungeness is internationally regarded as an excellent site for birdwatchers and its bird observatory is a registered charity with a warden present between March and November.

Its main recording area – where bird numbers are compiled – is the south-eastern corner of the shingle promontory that juts into the western limits of the Strait of Dover.

A daily record is kept of all birds spotted in the area and this is available for visitors to consult.

The main threat to the county's bird population is development, with proposals for an expansion of Lydd airport and plans for an offshore airport in the Thames estuary being of particular concern.

The huge number of new houses being planned for the county will also put tremendous strain on its environment.

Iceland, are thought to be increasing because of subtle changes in farming there, possibly linked to climate change.

The annual report is based on the fieldwork of some 3,000 bird-surveyors participating in synchronized monthly counts at wetlands, including estuaries, marshes, lakes and reservoirs, across the UK.

Chas Holt, of the British Trust for Ornithology, said: "The changes in waterbird populations identified each year by the Wetland Bird Survey highlight the importance of monitoring our wetlands.

"Without the dedicated efforts of volunteers throughout the UK, we would know far less than we do about how our waterbird populations are faring, and which sites are of most importance for them.

"Future research and conservation efforts, both at the national and international level, can be suitably directed using information collected by these volunteers."

Partners

Richard Hearn, head of species monitoring at the World Wildlife Fund, said: "Where declines of these migratory waterbirds have been noted in the UK, we must guard against assuming these birds are wintering further east in parts of Europe previously too cold.

"Climate-related changes in distribution have the potential to mask more serious conservation problems, so it is more important than ever that we get the complete picture by working with partners abroad to monitor these birds across their flyways."

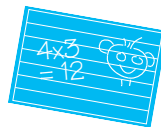
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BREAK TIME

World of adventure in natural play park

A NATURAL play park has opened in Faversham – to the delight of children who attended the ceremony.

Hugh Robertson MP officially opened the park, in Wildish Road, helped by pupils from Bysing Wood School.

Mr Robertson said: "It's a pleasure to open this park and I pay tribute to the hard work put in to make it happen. I hope it will provide hours of fun and be treated with care and respect."

The park was made possible by a £50,000 Government grant from the Playbuilder scheme. The programme – run by the Department for Children, Schools and Families – aims to encourage councils to upgrade and build new play parks.

A Swale council official said: "Natural play encourages children to make use of a varied landscape and to explore and investigate the natural world – for example, fallen leaves, bugs and wildlife."

"It also encourages them to climb, jump and balance on trees, benches and steps and play around, behind, over, through and under things such as walkways, paths, cargo nets and balance beams."

Skills and careers

Over 100 companies and education providers are expected to attend Swale's first ever skills and careers fair on Thursday, March 11.

The event will be held in Woodstock Club at Kent Science Park and is expected to attract more than 3,000 youngsters.

To find out more, call 01795 417850 or visit www.swale.gov.uk.

Tsunami unleashed wave of Fairtrade compassion

■ BY JILL HURST

RAINFOREST inhabitants, tsunami victims and children living in Third World conditions are just some of the beneficiaries of a charity set up by youngsters at a Faversham school.

Children at Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School established their cooperative business after watching the horror of the Boxing Day tsunami in the Far East in 2004.

The disaster motivated them to establish a Fairtrade tuck shop, named Cocofair, in 2005 to raise money to help those in need.

The profits have made a difference all over the world with Cocofair supporting the education of two children in Nigeria and Guatemala.

Contributions are also regularly made to Suchana, an education and health centre set up in West Bengal, India, by former Queen Elizabeth's pupil Kirsty Milward.

Fairtrade coordinator Hermance Gush said: "On Boxing Day 2004 we were sitting in our living room digesting Christmas dinner from the day before and enjoying our presents when suddenly, on the television, we were confronted with devastation and suffering on the other side of the world."

"We set up a Fairtrade tuck shop in the school to create a permanent way of supporting developing countries."

Since its launch, Cocofair has gone from strength to strength and now sells thousands of pounds worth of treats each year.

The shop is run by students of all ages and



THUMBS UP: Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School pupils at their Fairtrade stall

the business-savvy youngsters take every opportunity to make an extra sale.

Teachers and staff are now accustomed to drinking Fairtrade tea and coffee and the tuck shop is operating at every open evening, sports event or fete.

Students are now preparing for an intensive push to raise awareness of the charity with a Fairtrade fortnight.

A spokesman for Fairtrade said: "Fairtrade

is about better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability, and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world. By requiring companies to pay sustainable prices, we can be better equipped to address the injustices of conventional trade, which traditionally discriminates against the poorest, weakest producers."

If you would like to support Cocofair, visit www.queenelizabeths.kent.sch.uk.

SEND your schools news and pictures to yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk. You can also upload your video clips of schools events on to www.yourkenttv.co.uk

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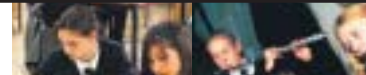
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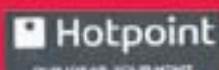
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YOUR LETTERS

Villagers join charity to oppose parking plan



Don't urbanise our pretty valley

Thank you for publicising the threat to the ancient village of Harbledown from Canterbury council's proposed park and ride site (February 10).

Your map accurately shows a white ring around the council's site, but the caption claimed it is "on the outskirts of the city". In fact, the site is several fields away from the edge of the city, right alongside Harbledown village in open countryside.

The council's proposal would urbanise a pretty valley which is currently filled with productive apple and pear orchards.

But there is a far preferable site for any park and ride that is needed to serve A2 traffic, namely at Wincheap Industrial Estate. This would fit well with Kent County Council's and the city council's intentions to install the "missing" slip-roads linking the A2 and the A28 to relieve traffic congestion in Wincheap.

The enclosed plan shows the Wincheap site circled in blue. It really is on the outskirts of the city and thus is in line with national guidance on park and ride locations.

The Wincheap site is also brownfield land rather than top-quality agricultural land like orchards at Harbledown.

We hope all your readers who hope to prevent urban sprawl from Canterbury encroaching on Grade 1 farmland will object to the Harbledown park and ride proposal in the council's core strategy. The deadline to write to the council's planning policy team is March 12.

J and I Baker, Rough Common, Canterbury



Character reference for animal abuser?

I was most disappointed to hear that my MP, Roger Gale, the elected representative for Herne Bay, had provided the former Mayor of Margate, Ted Watt-Ruffell, a character reference for a recent court case.

This case in question was not reported much in the local Herne Bay press, it mainly concerning Thanet, but I read the story on an

your blogger

The Greek financial crisis could be good news for British sunseekers, says Gary Wright



THE thing I've resented most about the credit crunch has been how expensive it's become to go abroad.

But that's about to change. As the banking crisis led to global recession, I watched the value of my holiday pound slump.

This was in large part due to our Government's solution to the problem, quantitative easing, or printing money as most African dictators would know it.

A cheap pound makes our products more saleable abroad, unfortunately we don't produce much and our one big skill – financial services – is no longer in such great demand.

And weren't our chums across the Channel happy? The Germans, Belgians and French quickly realised Angleterre was the place for a bargain.

They came across, shopping for clothes and shoes, then wondered why we weren't visiting Calais quite so often any more.

Well you wouldn't, would you? Tesco wine is cheaper over here and I'm not comfortable paying eight quid for a bit of cheese made from sheep milk.

Anyway, the annual Wright family excursion has been a little squeezed in the past couple of years because of GB Ltd's financial mess.

Portugal and Mallorca, turned out to be a bit pricey last year, and even Turkey the previous year admitted prices were up and Brits weren't spending

as much. No wonder.

I can get a fried breakfast cheaper in a transport café here than I could in sunny Marmaris. And that's not the way it should be. Because the idea of a holiday abroad is that it's so cheap you can come home and tell everyone how four of you ate out, drank gallons of the local booze, took a taxi back and still had so many pesetas/drachmas/lire left out of a tenner.

But for the past 18 months we've had to scrimp and visiting Med hotspots has become a bit pricey.

However, those nice Greeks are set to make it all better again. I love Greece. Holidays there have always been fun, sunny and cheap. But it's in real financial trouble and finally having to face up to economic reality.

France and Germany are pretty cross with Greek PM George Papandreou, since they have propped up the euro while our Mediterranean pals enjoy the benefits of stable interest rates and currency exchange.

Merkel and Sarkozy, along with the IMF, have given George a bit of a kicking, demanded he cut borrowing and spending, otherwise the country's international credit rating will resemble Zimbabwe's.

The Greek crisis has highlighted a dangerous weakness in the euro, proving that an interest rate and currency that stretches across borders 2,000 miles apart won't work unless everyone is sensible.

And that means the euro will become less attractive, will fall in value and we Brits can enjoy

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the editor, **Gareth Arnold**, on 01303 817025 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Canterbury blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to www.yourcanterbury.co.uk.

online news service and was frankly appalled.

Mr Watt-Ruffell, who recently stepped aside as mayor and resigned from the Conservatives in Thanet, was convicted of cruelty to a kitten on two counts earlier this month.

A kitten in his care was found to have been sucked dry of its blood by the fleas found on its body and, after entering a guilty plea, Mr Watt-Ruffell was given community service and a fine of £2,000.

He was also banned from keeping animals for 18 months.

Considering the charges, I must just ask, why did Mr Gale (who prides himself on his animal rights standings) give this man a reference?

I used to vote for Mr Gale, but stopped at the last election, because I do not believe he displays good judgement. This is just further evidence of that.

Unfortunately the contents of Mr Gale's letter did not get reported, so I am assuming it was not read out in court, but I would have been fascinated to learn what it contained.

I hope Mr Gale will think long and hard before he lends his name to any character references in future.

I also hope that Suzy Gale, Roger's wife, who also prides herself on her animal rights standings, will give her husband better advice from now on.

Perhaps in future we should just vote for people who are not rank hypocrites!

Come May, I'll be putting an 'X' in one of the other boxes.

Mrs M Beatty, by email



Council open forum was a 'charade'

Professor David Birmingham, former head of history at the University of Kent, is entirely correct to find the council executives' use of the party whip to get what they want so agonising.

The final meeting at the Guildhall to finalise the contentious budget cuts was always destined to be free of any qualities of attributes.

The ruling councillors had obviously reached their decisions several months previously, so their transparent open forum allowing members of the public to air their views was nothing more than an elaborate charade.

The ordinary people of Canterbury are not as easily lashed into submission as city council leaders might suppose.

With regard to condemned Westgate Hall, it's not difficult to envisage civil disobedience when the demolition crew descend on our treasured structure.

Clive Wilkins-Oppler



Our money's going on european roads

Your blogger on February 24 raising concerns about potholes and the state of our roads prompts me to send the following for readers to be made aware of.

Between 2007 and 2013 the EU at Brussels is spending billions of euros on road building and repairs across the EU member countries in central and eastern Europe.

Brussels is urging the rapid expansion of its Trans-European Transport Network (TEN) which will eventually stretch the length and breadth of Europe.

With Britain now the major contributor to Brussels' yearly spend of more than 650 billion euros, British taxpayers can expect life in general here to consist of more crumbling roads and deteriorating services everywhere, because our money is being spent, with the approval of all the major political parties, on supporting all other countries in the EU and beyond.

How much longer will people here put up with this ludicrous situation before doing something to bring it all to an end?

Roger Arnold, by email

Labour – we don't like what we see

Prime Minister Gordon Brown launched the Labour Party's general election campaign this weekend with the plea that the public should trust him as a caring politician. He also gave a strong hint that the General Election may be on May 6 at the same time as the local elections.

To do so he would need to dissolve Parliament on April 8. Am I a cynic or will he call it mid-March but keep the election on May 6 just so that he can avoid having a Budget on March 18. That way 'The Easter Bully' would not have to be honest with voters and say what he is going to do about Britain's near-£200 billion debt before the election. Thus avoiding frightening voters and the international money markets.

In launching Labour's election campaign Gordon Brown asked us to "give Labour a second look" with the slogan "Labour will make a fairer future for all".

So let's have a "second look" look at what Labour has done to Britain over the last 13 years.

In 1999 in Paris they said we were "the first generation that could look forward to no wars and to none of our children dying in wars". Well since then we have lost 385 of our brave young soldiers and now learn from the Chilcott Inquiry that Gordon Brown was responsible for under-funding essential equipment and body protection.

Gordon Brown said he had got rid of "boom and bust" but we have a severe recession, three years of a failing economy, the biggest national debt in history, rising unemployment, rising mortgage repossessions and increasing company failures. Not exactly a raging success story.

Gordon Brown says he will give us a fairer future yet the gap between rich and poor gets greater and greater and the tax for low-income families, pensioners, single parents and those on benefits has increased from 10 per cent to 22 per cent. What's fair about that?

Labour said they would protect our borders yet over the last 13 years immigration has risen from 40,000 to 250,000 a year and we are headed for an unmanageable population of 70 million.

Gordon Brown categorically denied bullying staff and told Piers Morgan so. Yet it is now alleged that he manhandled staff at No 10 and bullied them so much that three contacted the National Bullying Helpline and the Cabinet Secretary had to verbally warn him. That's not a trustworthy, caring politician.

Yes we have had a second look at Gordon Brown and his failed Labour Government and the majority of voters will reject them, whenever the election. He may be able to get away with bullying his staff but he will not do it with the voters.

We have looked again at Labour and do not like what we see. We need change from Gordon Brown and this miserable Labour Government.

John Burke, Bapchild

Cricketer Geraint's charity golf day

MARTHA Trust hosts its third annual Geraint Jones charity golf day.

Players with a maximum handicap of 24 for men and 30 for women are invited to Prince's Golf Club, Sandwich, on Friday, March 19.

Teams of four will be joined by Kent cricketer Geraint Jones MBE and John Shepherd, the former West Indies international and Kent player.

The 18 holes, followed by a two-course dinner and charity auction will cost £70 per player – £40 per member – with proceeds going to the Deal-based trust.

Crack drug charge after cops seizure

A MAN has been charged with possession with intent to supply crack cocaine.

John Whiteman, 42, of Tupman Close, Rochester, was arrested inside the Pentagon Shopping Centre in Chatham.

Officers seized 73 wraps of crack cocaine, a class A drug.

He has been charged with possession Medway Magistrates' Court on Wednesday, March 3.

Herald memorial

THE annual service to commemorate those who died in the Herald of Free Enterprise disaster is at St Mary's Church, Dover, at 11am on Saturday.

A window in the church honours the 193 people who died when the ferry capsized in March, 1987.

Anniversary tribute to Few who took on the Luftwaffe

■ BY NICK AMES

THIS summer – the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Britain – will see a gathering of veterans at the official memorial to the heroes of the RAF.

On Sunday, July 11, former airmen will parade before Prince Michael of Kent at Capel-le-Ferne, while Spitfire and Hurricane fighters and a Lancaster bomber roar overhead.

The public is invited to attend what is sure to be a special day at the memorial, which includes a wall inscribed with the names of men who lost their lives, a sculpture of a pilot gazing out to sea and replica Hurricane and Spitfire fighter planes.

Cadets from all three branches of the armed services will attend, along with the band of the RAF. Standards from RAF squadrons will also be paraded on the day.

A spokesman said: "It's sure to be a great day. But as well as veterans, dignitaries and cadets, the public are also invited along and pay their respects."

The Battle of Britain took place in the



TOP FLIGHT: Replica Spitfire at the Capel memorial

summer of 1940 after Hitler's Nazi forces had taken control of France and the Low Countries.

As a prelude to a planned invasion of Britain, the Luftwaffe was ordered to destroy the Royal Air Force which it greatly outnumbered. Raids lasted until the autumn as Fighter Command fended off waves of German bombers and tangled with their escorting ME109 and ME110 fighters.

Eventually the raids stopped and the threat of invasion was lifted – giving rise to Prime Minister Winston Churchill's famous tribute: "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few".

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JERSEY HOLIDAYS



With its unspoiled landscape and unique blend of British and French influences, Jersey really is a place where you can get away from it all.

Relax and enjoy the famed hospitality of its people, and lose yourself in the Island's winding lanes or on its breathtaking coast.



	22-May	5-Jun	3-Jul	14-Aug	4-Sep
Villa Isis BB	£259	£279	£324	£349	£349
Mayfair*	£399	£449	£489	£529	£519
Norfolk BB	£279	£319	£349	£369	£379

Other dates available.

Flights Depart from KENT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Flight times: 15:25/16:30 13:50/14:50 (Depart/Arrive)

NEW for 2010 Departures from Lydd Airport

*Free HB at the Mayfair Hotel, selected dates, ask for details

Prices above do not include Transfers (£10 pp return) but do include baggage and check in fees and taxes. BB unless otherwise stated and 2 adults sharing.

Please quote ref MSE10 to ensure you are quoted lowest available prices.
Prices are subject to change and availability and can only be confirmed at time of booking.



Award Winning Company

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We've teamed up with P&O Ferries to bring you some great travel deals to start 2010! Enjoy a fantastic day out in France with the family sailing from Dover to Calais.

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EXCLUSIVE LAUNCH - Beyonce's new fragrance, Beyonce Heat, will be available on board P&O Ferries from 1st March. Be one of the first to wear this new fragrance as it won't be sold on the High Street until later this year.

Take advantage of the bulk buy service and fill the boot with beer, wine or spirits and save up to 30% off the equivalent UK prices. If you cut out the vouchers below you can save even more money. At these prices you can't afford not to go! Plus, you pay in pounds so no need to worry about the exchange rate.

EATING

Whilst on board our Food Court will be able to offer you great quality food at fantastic value prices - a family of four can eat for as little as £24 (2 Adults and 2 children under 16) with plenty of choice including 'Great British Classics' like Fish and Chips.

If you really want to treat yourself then you can dine in style in the world famous London Mayfair's Langan's Brasserie, exclusively on P&O Ferries.

You can sit back and relax whilst enjoying a Costa coffee on board along with a mouth watering muffin or a slice of cake. This is not just a trip with P&O Ferries; it is a total shopping and dining, travel experience and is not to be missed!

WHAT TO SEE AND DO - Stuck for ideas on what to do with the kids during Easter break? Why not take them to one of these great attractions just over the channel. We have some great offers for the whole family. Just cut out the vouchers below and start saving.

NAUSICAA: Visit Nausicaa in Boulogne for a complete sealife experience. There are several giant aquariums and terrariums, discovery areas and regular exhibitions. Find out about whale migrations, sharks, Aldabra Giant Tortoises and visit the Sea Lion reserve and Penguin Beach.

LA COUPOLE: A secret place hidden in the hills around St.Omer, just 40 minutes from Calais.

Visitors can re-live life under Nazi occupation, learn about V2 rockets, view archive footage of WW2 and discover man's conquest of space, a totally memorable and fascinating experience.

PLOPSALAND: Under an hour from Calais, Plopsaland De Panne is an excellent family theme park located on the Belgian Coast. Dive into Pirates' Bay with the SuperSplash, join Mega Mindy in pursuit of the villains on the Flying Bicycles and enjoy a splashing water spectacle in the Jetski.

HOW TO BOOK: To book online visit www.poferries.com/kosmedia or call the P&O Ferries reservation hotline on **08716 64 80 01** quoting 'KOS Q1'.

Calls cost 10p per minute plus network extras. Calls from mobiles will be higher.

Lines are open Mon - Fri 8am - 8pm, Sat-Sun and Bank Holidays.

Please make a note of the reference number you are given. Payments must be made by selected credit/debit cards at the time of booking. Bookings made by credit card/cheque are subject to a booking fee. All tickets are collected at time of departure.



Full Terms and conditions available online at Poferry.com: All offers are subject to restricted space, sailings and dates. Once your booking has been confirmed to you, no amendments or refunds will be permitted. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Offer only applicable to new bookings. * Free wine voucher will be issued at the port when you check in with your vehicle, and the wine must be collected on your outward crossing. This offer may be withdrawn without prior notice. No bookings will be taken at the port. If you fail to travel on one part of your booking we may charge a supplement. Dover/Calais: If you depart Dover between 19:45 and 5:40am return from Calais between 22:40 and 08:55am, our 'Lite Nights' service means there will be limited onboard facilities but we will offer hot food, onboard bar, bureau de change and offshore shopping.

Dover to Calais FOOT PASSENGER Prices	Sunday - Thursday		Friday and Saturday	
Depart after 07:50am return before 22:00 the same day	Web	Phone	Web	Phone
Travel 28th Feb to 23rd April- Prices from	£3	£5	£7	£8

Dover to Calais CAR FULL DAY TRIP Car and up to 9 people	Sunday - Thursday		Friday and Saturday	
Depart and return before midnight the same day	Web	Phone	Web	Phone
Travel 28th Feb to 31st March- Prices from	£19	£24	£24	£29
Travel 1st April to 23rd April- Prices from	£23	£28	£30	£35

Dover to Calais CAR AFTERNOON DAY TRIP Car and up to 9 people	Any Day	Any Day	Any Day	Any Day
Depart before midday and return midnight the same day	Web	Phone	Web	Phone
Travel 28th Feb to 31st March- Prices from	£17	£22	£17	£22
Travel 1st April to 23rd April- Prices from	£19	£24	£19	£24

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Conditions: Subject to availability - while stocks last. The beer must be purchased on your outward crossing from Dover. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other promotional offer. This voucher has no monetary value and cannot be exchanged for cash. Only one voucher is redeemable per person along with your boarding card. Offer only applicable to bookings made on KOS Media Q1 promotion. Voucher valid to 23rd April 2010. Photocopies will not be accepted.

Offer code: 7200

EAN Barcode: 00720007

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Offer code: 7853

EAN Barcode: 00785303

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P&O Ferries
KOS Media Offer
One child goes free for one paying adult
Offer valid until 23rd April 2010

Cut out this Voucher and hand this voucher in with your P&O Ferries ticket when paying for your tickets at Nausicaa. Offer not valid in conjunction with any other offer, discount or promotion. Voucher is only valid for one visit to Nausicaa and one transaction only.

P&O Ferries
KOS Media Offer
2 adults and up to 5 children for just €18.50
Offer valid for entry between March 22nd and 23rd April 2010

Cut out this Voucher and hand this voucher in with your P&O Ferries ticket when paying for your tickets at La Coupole. Offer not valid in conjunction with any other offer, discount or promotion. Voucher is only valid for one visit to La Coupole and one transaction only.

P&O Ferries
KOS Media Offer
50% off entrance tickets, €14 per person (Normal price at gate €28)
Offer valid from 4th to 18th April 2010

Cut out this Voucher and hand this voucher in with your P&O Ferries ticket when paying for your tickets at Belgium's leading theme park Plopsaland. Offer not valid in conjunction with any other offer, discount, promotion or advanced booking. Voucher is only valid for one visit to Plopsaland and one transaction only.

your lifestyle

DeNiro still the daddy, says Drew

Co-star Barrymore says legendary actor was head of the family on set of *Everybody's Doing Fine*

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De Niro's still the daddy as all-star cast line-up to join his film family

■ BY KATE WHITING

JUST how much do parents really know about their children's lives?

Everybody's Fine, a remake of an Italian film, suggests not as much as they think.

The film sees Oscar-winner Robert De Niro playing Frank Goode, a widower who has spent his life working in a wire factory, earning money to support his family.

When he retires, he realises he hasn't spent enough time with his children and sets off on a road trip across the US to surprise each of them.

He expects to find them living the successful lives his wife had always told him about, but the reality is very different.

As a father-of-four sons and one adopted daughter, 66-year-old De Niro knew only too well how complicated family relationships can be and it was this that appealed about the film.

"I can identify with this stuff, to say the least. I can understand what Frank is going through with his kids and that's what was so interesting to me," he says, in his unmistakable drawl.

"I have five kids and two grandchildren, so I could easily draw on [my own experience] when it was applicable to this film."

He's not afraid of how his children will respond to the film – and whether they'll see their dad in the character of Frank.

"I think they'll see it eventually... God knows what they'll say," he smiles, eyes twinkling.

Such is De Niro's pulling power as an actor, that Drew Barrymore, Kate Beckinsale and Sam Rockwell lined up to play his on-screen children, Rosie, Amy and Robert, and they worked hard to recreate a family.

"I hate those fake Hollywood families where people do one read-through and suddenly they're a family," says Barrymore, 34, whose character is "a dancer" in Las Vegas.

"This was different because we spent a lot of time together so the tactile feeling of affection would come across between us.



PARENTAL CONCERN: Drew Barrymore (right) called movie legend De Niro 'Daddy D' during the making of the film

"With Robert De Niro, I felt I couldn't just call him 'Bob', so I started calling him 'Daddy D'. I wanted to get to know him well enough so that those emotions would happen naturally on screen."

Beckinsale said: "I think we all felt very connected and cobbled together, like a real family. Everyone was full of emotions about the story.

"We might not have had the same experiences as our characters, but the themes of secrets in families, trying to protect your par-

ents and the relationships between siblings was something each of us could relate to.

"It was especially personal to Bob and that sort of filtered down to each of us."

Everybody's Fine was written and directed by Nanny McPhee's Kirk Jones and based on the Italian film Stanno Tutti Bene by Oscar-winning director Giuseppe Tornatore, itself a follow-up to his classic Cinema Paradiso.

"I was very aware of how universal family is as a theme, possibly second only to the theme

VIEW THIS PREVIEW



YOU CAN WATCH THIS FILM AND PREVIEWS OF THE LATEST MOVIES BY LOGGING ON @ yourkenttv.co.uk

of love, which half the films we watch are about," says Jones, who lives in Bristol.

He admits he didn't have a plan B if De Niro had turned down the role of Frank.

"There wasn't really a back-up plan. I just knew he was right. After meeting him in New York I knew he was absolutely perfect for the role. It was just a matter of waiting for him to realise he was perfect for the role."

De Niro didn't let him down.

EVERYBODY'S FINE 
Certificate 12A

PICTURE: CHANNEL 4



WAITING GAME: Channel 4's documentary about a UK maternity ward is great TV



YOUR TV REVIEW **ONE BORN EVERY MINUTE:** Channel 4, 9pm, Tuesday

BEING a squeamish single man with no sign of a girlfriend, let alone a nipper coming along in the near future, I don't know much about childbirth.

But that hasn't stopped me from finding One Born Every Minute a fascinating watch.

This has been a real eye-opener and is a powerful slice of TV that takes you on an hour long emotional roller-coaster ride each week, so tune in.

A fly-on-wall documentary in the true sense of the word, this shows you what a life-changing experience childbirth turns out to be for those who have to go through it.

The highs and lows of the goings-on in an average British maternity ward actually turn out to be pretty gripping.

Sure we have the screaming fits and the swearing, but we also get to see

■ BY TOM BETTS

the births that go off without a hitch.

Although, a quick note to all the dads-to-be out there: never try and lark about during the process.

Buffoonery at the most dramatic point of a female's life, no matter how well intentioned, will probably go down like a lead balloon.

Steve the policeman found this out to his cost when he thought it would be a good idea to tickle his other half's back with an inflated latex glove, while she was in, what can only be described as, "full flow".

The rebuke was sharp and swift, but you could understand why.

Many of the males who have appeared so far have not fared too well, proving that even though their presence is requested, and in

these times, expected in the delivery room, it would probably be a better idea for them to wait outside, at home or even down the pub.

You must also pity the hospital staff who seem to have a life filled with non-stop drama and stress, but cope admirably well throughout, and often act as a referee between warring partners.

At the end of an hour, the abiding memory is that most women in labour come across as incredibly brave and remarkably stoic in the face of such immense pain and pressure, but are quickly reduced to sobbing, wide-eyed softies when the screaming newborn baby is placed in their arms for the very first time.

When people talk about reality TV, this is what we should be referring to, not Big Brother or any of its now pointless imitators.



Geraint Jones

CHARITY GOLF DAY



Friday 19th March 2010
PRINCES GOLF CLUB, SANDWICH

In support of Martha Trust, a charity providing a loving, life-long home for people with profound and multiple disabilities

Geraint Jones MBE
England and Kent Cricketer

ALL DONATIONS WELCOME, INCLUDING AUCTION PRIZES.



- SHOTGUN START AT 11.00AM
- COFFEE & BACON ROLL ON ARRIVAL
- 18 HOLES - Followed by
- TWO COURSE DINNER & CHARITY AUCTION

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www.thetravelandleisureshow.co.uk
or call Liz Hare on 01303 817172 or email liz.hare@kosmedia.co.uk





LIVE & LOCAL

Have you got talent?

SHOW off your singing, dancing or comedy skills for a chance to win a trip to Abu Dhabi with Lashings' new talent contest.

The bar in Upper Stone Street, Maidstone, is offering a visit to the Emirates Palace Hotel for the winner and the grand final takes place in July.

To apply call 0870 460 6561, email info@lashings.co.uk or visit the bar.

Jolie star of screening

ANGELINA Jolie stars in *Changeling*, the story of a distraught mother who takes on the establishment.

Clint Eastwood directs the Oscar-winning film which can be seen at the Hazlitt Theatre in Maidstone at 8pm on Monday, screened by the Maidstone Film Society. For more information visit www.maidstone-film-society.org.uk.

A date with nature

HELP visitors to discover nature at Leeds Castle this spring by volunteering for a RSPB wildlife project.

The charity needs volunteers to help at the Date With Nature event that runs at the castle from March 27 to April 18, and again from August 14 to 31.

Call Kate Whitton on 07889 615727 or email kate.whitton@rspb.org.uk.

Zumba craze is here

DISCOVER the latest dance craze from Miami at Zumba classes in Rochester.

The Latin-inspired workout is taking the world by storm and is a fun way to burn fat, while sculpting the body.

Classes are held at Virgin Active at Medway Valley Leisure Park at 7pm on Wednesdays and 10.35am on Thursdays. More details at www.virginactive.co.uk.

Orson's finest hour

A MOVIE masterpiece can be seen at Chatham's Central Theatre as part of the Screen Classics season.

Orson Welles' *Citizen Kane* is considered one of the finest films ever made and will be screened at 7.30pm on Tuesday.

Tickets cost £6 or £5 if booked online and £3.50 for students. Call 01634 338338 or visit www.medway.gov.uk/theatrebooking.

Sculptor to give talk

ARTIST Craig Fisher will be talking about his work at Rochester Art Gallery and Auditorium on Saturday.

Fisher's soft, sculptural installations form part of *Thread Bare*, an exhibition which explores the human condition.

He will give his presentation from 1pm to 2pm. To reserve your free place call 01634 338319.

Art group's exhibition

MEMBERS of the Norton Art Group will be taking over the Polka Dot Art Centre in Teynham for a week.

From Saturday the gallery will exhibit work by the group and members are happy to show visitors around.

The exhibition runs until next Saturday and the gallery is open from 10am to 4pm. More details at www.polkadotac.co.uk.



Country star Carlene goes back to her roots

CARLENE CARTER

Saturday March 6
Exchange Studio, Maidstone



FEW musicians can boast a more impressive country music heritage than Carlene Carter.

As the step-daughter of the legendary Johnny Cash and daughter of June Carter Cash, she has a tremendous family history in the business. Thanks to *Maverick Live*, Carter tops the list of major country acts visiting Maidstone this year.

Her father, Carl Smith, was responsible for many hits in the 1950s and Carter has drawn on her rich heritage during her highly successful career. In the 1970s she joined the Johnny Cash Roadshow as one of the Carter Sisters, but her career was to take some unexpected directions as she explored her musical potential.

At the age of just 22, the mother-of-two left Nashville to launch a solo career in England where she established herself as a country rocker with punk influences. Not only did Carter work with top musicians such as Dave Edmunds, Paul Carrack – who left Squeeze to join her band – Brinsley Schwartz and Graham Parker's Rumour, she also appeared in the West End musical, *Pump Boys and Dinettes*. The move also led to romance and Carter married English singer-songwriter, Nick Lowe. Carter was well-known for her good looks and onstage patter that was sometimes a little risqué.

Top American country singer songwriter and step-daughter of the legendary Johnny Cash plays this month's *Maverick Live* programme

After releasing five successful albums in the UK, Carter returned to Nashville and her country roots in the late 80s, where she enjoyed a string of hit songs such as *I Fell in Love*, *The Sweetest Thing* and *Come On Back*. With the album *I Fell in Love*, she earned accolades from *Tim*, *People* and *Stereo Review* magazines, all of whom named it as one of the year's top-ten country albums.

Carter persuaded her dad to come out of retirement and join her on a duet for the album *Little Acts of Treason*. They sang a version of his hit song *Loose Talk*, which had hit the number-one spot in the year Carter was born.

Following a number of television specials, in which she was joined by family members and fellow musicians, Carter embarked on a major tour of 33 cities in 1996 with Lorrie Morgan and Pam Tillis.

The release of the album *Hindsight 20/20* marked the beginning of a quiet period, but Carter overcame personal difficulties and tragedies to work on various projects at the start of the decade. In 2005, she played the role of her mother in a stage musical about June's early years with Mother Maybelle and the Carter Sisters.

Although Carter has explored different avenues during her career, she has returned to her roots with her latest album, *Stronger*. Following in the footsteps of her mother and grandmother, Maybelle Carter, she plays the autoharp and has written acoustic songs that really connect with her musical heritage.

The Carter Family were a phenomenally successful group that became the biggest selling recording act in the US from 1927 to 1935. Their success even outstripped Bing Crosby and the group continued in various formats for many years, with Carter joining her mother June and aunts Helen and Anita as the Carter Family in 1987.

The love story between June Carter and Johnny Cash was the subject of the Hollywood film, *Walk the Line*, starring Joaquin Phoenix and Reese Witherspoon, who won an Oscar and a BAFTA for her portrayal of June.

Tickets cost £22 and can be booked online at www.mavericklive.co.uk or by calling 01622 744481.

Future highlights of this year's *Maverick Live* programme include performances by Nashville-based act Suzy Bogguss and veteran country singer Gene Watson.



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Email jane.connolly@kosmedia.co.uk



CHICAGO BLUES BROTHERS

Saturday, March 6, Pizza Express, Maidstone



DRESS to impress and get ready to dance the night away with the Chicago Blues Brothers.

Ever since Dan Ackroyd and John Belushi unleashed their comic creations on Saturday Night Live back in 1978, the Blues Brothers have continued to inspire countless tribute events and fancy dress parties.

When the hugely popular film was released in 1980, the pair secured a place in movie and music history with their fantastic blend of comedy and massive party tunes.

Many great soul and blues songs will be forever associated

with the besuited Jake and Elwood, in their shades and pork pie hats.

Celebrating 30 years of the Blues Brothers phenomenon, the feel-good show features a six-piece band backing Jake and Elwood as they rock their way through this funny and entertaining production, featuring great tunes like Shake Your Tail Feather, Sweet Home Chicago, Everybody Needs Somebody and many more.

The show starts at 8pm and tickets cost £23.

To book visit the website at www.pizzaexpresslive.co.uk.



JAZZ CONCERT FOR HAITI

Wednesday, March 10, RAF Association Club, Chatham



OUTSTANDING jazz musicians join forces to raise money for victims of the Haiti earthquake at a special concert next week.

Coljazz Promotions has assembled a fantastic line-up of performers for this all-star concert, which will raise much-needed funds for those affected by the disaster.

Among the musicians giving their time for free are saxophone-clarinet star Pete Long and remarkable drummer Martin Drew (both pictured).

The stellar line-up also includes sax players Alan Barnes, Simon Spillet and Alex

Garnett, along with Steve Fishwick, Paul Cheneour and Mark Nightingale who play the trumpet, flute and trombone respectively. Bass will be provided by Andrew Cleynert and Alec Dankworth, with more drums from Bobby Worth. Keyboard player Steve Melling completes the line-up so far, with more set to join the action.

The show starts at 8.30pm and tickets cost £10. There will also be a raffle. For more details call 01634 365352/362704 or 07544 312743, email coljazz@virginmedia.com or visit www.coljazz.webs.com.

CHRIS WOOD

Wednesday, March 10 The Chimney Boy, Faversham



THROUGHOUT his career, Chris Wood's independent streak has shone through his captivating music.

Wood's early days as a choirboy continue to influence his music and he describes his latest album, Handmade Life, as "church music with drums".

The self-taught guitarist and violin player creates songs with astonishing clarity and lyrical understatement, a talent which earned Wood the BBC Folk Awards Singer of the Year gong last year. He also received the Best Album award for Trespasser and is considered to be a major commentator on modern English life.

With his considerable skills as a singer-songwriter, he has worked with The Oyster Band, Billy Bragg and Eliza and Martin Carthy, before recording his first solo album in 2006.

One of his songs, The Burning Babe, has been covered by Sting on his latest album, Winter. This compliment pays tribute to the fact that Wood is a highly regarded artist who has quietly carved his own, very successful career.

The concert starts at 8.30pm and tickets cost £7 for Faversham Folk Club members or £8 for non-members. To find out more call 01795 536857.



STOP MESSING ABOUT

Monday March 8 to

Saturday March 13

Orchard Theatre, Dartford



REVISIT a golden age of classic comedy with the hilarious and nostalgic Stop Messing About.

The rapier wit of Kenneth Williams is celebrated in this outrageously funny show, based on the eponymous BBC radio series that gripped audiences in the 1960s. The show is set during a live recording and captures the riotous fun of radio comedy, with sketches, parodies and songs.

Stop Messing About sees Williams reunited with Carry On co-star Joan Sims and Hugh Paddick, producing comedy gold that was suitable for all the family.

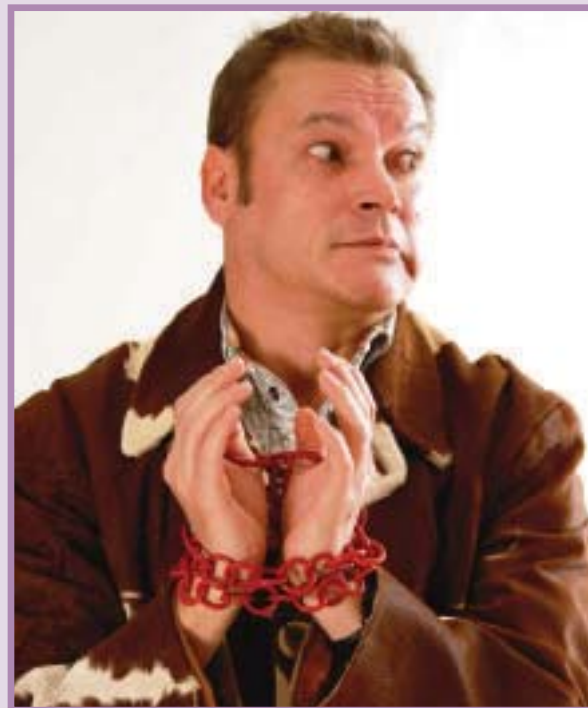
Taking on the daunting task of playing the comic legend is Robin Sebastian, who received much praise for his portrayal of Williams in the West End production.



Written by Johnnie Mortimer and Brian Cooke – the brains behind sitcoms Man About the House, Robin's Nest and George & Mildred – the show takes audiences on a nostalgic journey into a world of

timeless comedy and characters.

Performances start at 7.30pm daily (matinees 2.30pm Wednesdays and Saturdays). Tickets are priced from £15. Book at www.orchardtheatre.co.uk or call the box office on 01322 220000.



THE COMEDY CLUB

Friday, March 5
Bridgewood Manor, Chatham



RIBS will be well and truly tickled this week when The Comedy Club brings three more great comics to Medway.

Keeping order during the two hours of hilarity is Padraig Hyland, who acts as MC for the evening and is sure to warm up the crowd with his Irish warmth and charm.

The comedian is also a life coach and he has plenty of hilarious observations to keep the laughter flowing.

After being disowned by the Catholic Church for his overly detailed confessions, Anthony King turned to comedy and manages to combine his real experiences with complete lies to great comic effect.

Headline act Nick Wilty (pictured) is known as the Globetrotting Comedian and he has lived up to the name by performing on every continent except Antarctica.

The award-winning comic has even performed in far-flung Tierra Del Fuego at the southernmost tip of South America.

The over-18s show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £22.95 including a two-course meal and disco. There will also be waitress service and a joke competition.

To book call 01634 201333 or visit www.hahaheeh.com for more details.

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TODAY'S FORECAST



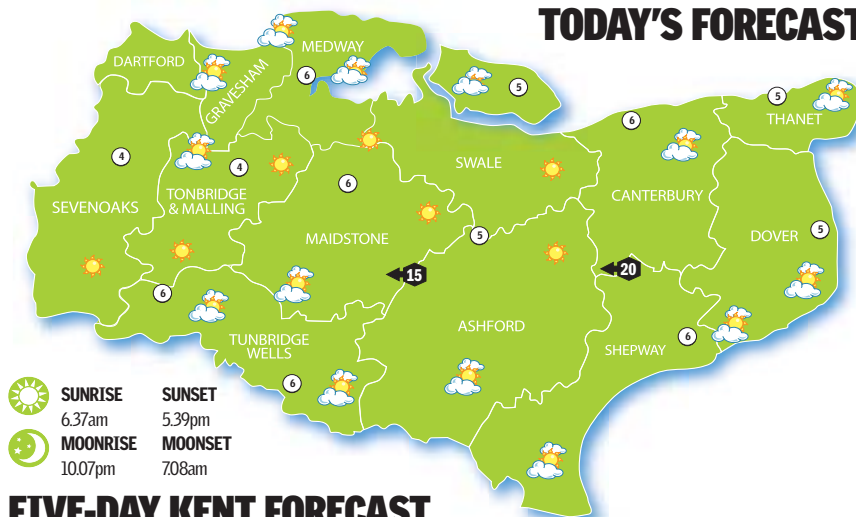
WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	4:35pm	5.6m
	Sunday	5:18pm	5.2m
Dover	Saturday	2:50pm	6.1m
	Sunday	3:40pm	5.7m
Dungeness	Saturday	2:51pm	6.9m
	Sunday	3:41pm	6.4m
Ramsgate	Saturday	3:20pm	4.7m
	Sunday	4:10pm	4.3m
Sheerness	Saturday	4:24pm	5.4m
	Sunday	5:07pm	5.1m
Whitstable	Saturday	4:33pm	4.9m
	Sunday	5:15pm	4.7m



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	6°C	Madrid	11°C
Athens	17°C	New York	4°C
Barcelona	16°C	Paris	10°C
Beijing	-2°C	Rome	15°C
Bombay	33°C	Sydney	18°C
Cape Town	25°C	Tenerife	20°C
Cardiff	6°C	Tokyo	10°C
Gibraltar	16°C	Vancouver	11°C
Hong Kong	25°C	Warsaw	9°C
Las Palmas	21°C	Wellington	18°C



FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	10°C	6°C	6°C	7°C	6°C	Gravesend	9°C	7°C	7°C	7°C	6°C
Canterbury	7°C	6°C	6°C	6°C	5°C	Maidstone	9°C	7°C	7°C	7°C	7°C
Chatham	8°C	6°C	6°C	6°C	5°C	Ramsgate	7°C	6°C	6°C	6°C	5°C
Dartford	9°C	7°C	7°C	7°C	6°C	Rochester	8°C	6°C	6°C	6°C	5°C
Dover	8°C	6°C	6°C	6°C	5°C	Sevenoaks	8°C	5°C	5°C	5°C	5°C
Faversham	8°C	6°C	6°C	6°C	5°C	Sittingbourne	8°C	6°C	6°C	6°C	5°C
Folkestone	8°C	6°C	6°C	6°C	5°C	Tonbridge	9°C	6°C	6°C	7°C	6°C
Gillingham	8°C	6°C	6°C	6°C	5°C	Tun Wells	9°C	6°C	6°C	7°C	6°C

Comedian just won't shut up

FIRMLY dispelling those winter blues, the inimitable comedian Jo Caulfield will perform a stand-up set in Canterbury this month.

The woman who got into comedy after a drunken attempt at an open mic night in east London now tackles topical issues from the recession and how to get out of it, to more perennial annoyances like loved-up couples, in her new show.

Caulfield counts Dave Allen, Billy Connolly, Joan Rivers and Eddie Izzard as major influences and revels in one reviewer's description of her show as a "celebration of anger".

Recently dubbed the best female stand-up in the country by chortle.co.uk, Caulfield is best known for appearing on the BBC's *Mock The Week*, *Have I Got News For You*, *Never Mind The Buzzcocks* and Michael MacIntyre's *Comedy Roadshow*.

Unbeknown to many she has also been Graham Norton's head writer for years, and has also written for celebrities ranging from Marcus Brigstocke to Anne Robinson.

Now, 12 years after her first comedy attempt, Ms Caulfield is taking to the stage for her fourth national comedy tour with her show *Won't Shut Up*, which sold out at Edinburgh.

The gig is on Wednesday, March 10, at the Gulbenkian Theatre in Canterbury. Tickets cost £14, or £12 for concessions. They are available from the theatre box office on 01227 769 075 or www.kent.ac.uk/gulbenkian.



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 W H F is a charity based in Kent working hard to ensure the survival of big cat species. We are an active partner in the European Endangered Species Breeding Programmes and raise awareness and funding for cat projects around the world.

RANGER FOR THE DAY
 A guided tour of site to meet all the cats, including Lions, Tigers, Snow Leopards, Cheetahs & Amur Leopards, an opportunity to help us clean and tend the cats, assist with the cat feeding and to get some really good photos as mementos of the day.

Wildlife Heritage Foundation
 Headcorn Road, Smarden
 Ashford TN27 8PJ
 Tel: 01233 771915
 Website: www.whf.org.uk
 Registered Charity Number: 1104420

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yourstyle

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yourtimeout

CROSSWORD & SUDOKU

No127

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Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9

EASY

9	4		6					3
				5		7		4
			3			9		5
		7	9	3		4		2
	1		2		8		9	
8		9		4	7	6		
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1		8		2				
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EASY

7	8				9	3		
		1			8			
		5						4
			8	9		5		
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		8		3	2			
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			9			6		
		9	6				1	7

EASY

1				5		4	6	
					1			5
7				9				
			8	3		1		
		3	5		2	9		
		1		7	4			
				8				3
2			6					
	3	4		2				8

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Positive development? (10)
 7 Around four, I in France, dance (4)
 9 Spray of liquid hesitantly put on drink (8)
 10 New centre spread (6)
 11 It is supposed to bring good fortune during promising spell (5,5)
 14 Stress identification was included for mishap (8)
 15 Equality of one in political group (6)
 16 Laurais not left another question first about celestial body (6)
 18 Bus reversed in front of garage, not the main one (8)
 20 Employment of persons I arranged (10)
 23 Much liked dog I abused becoming a deep violet-blue (6)
 24 Runs idea about old Roman coin (8)
 25 Present from the residents (4)
 26 Shabby fluff by back of one's foot (4-2-4)

DOWN

- 2 He accepted work in anticipation (4)
 3 Catch onto small branch (4)
 4 Beast having zest, no way, during legal complications (7)
 5 A pair I caught to come up with fruit (7)
 6 Impatient call for rate increase (5,2)
 7 One who was cornered in a nursery-rhyme (4,6)
 8 Archdeacon takes fifth allowance with awe (10)
 12 Happening to be found with said bird at church (10)
 13 Animated greeting to bring one round? (4,2,4)
 17 Some of the correspondents reply (7)
 18 Margery has slip first on mountain (7)
 19 Boaz and Ann rediscovered wealthy mine (7)
 21 Principal way through (4)
 22 Some of the influx especially liked opulence (4)

QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Unresolved (2,2,3,3)
 7 Bend (4)
 9 Odd (8)
 10 Interchange (6)
 11 Mode of thinking (10)
 14 Counter-argument (8)
 15 Restart (6)
 16 Grated (6)
 18 Sitings (8)
 20 Horror film (5,5)
 23 Former Indian PM (6)
 24 Part of the Atlantic (5,3)
 25 Resist (4)
 26 Rank of one titled iSiri (10)

DOWN

- 2 Prudish (4)
 3 Barricaded area (2-2)
 4 Fool (7)
 5 Advent (7)
 6 Cattle thief (7)
 7 Amicable feeling (10)
 8 Thrill (10)
 12 Execute (10)
 13 June 24th egg (7-3)
 17 Northern French port (7)
 18 Japanese dish (7)
 19 To an excessive level (3-4)
 21 Hash (anag.) (4)
 22 Greek philosopher (4)

YOUR HOROSCOPE BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

TAKE time to smell the flowers before it's too late. For the past few weeks, you've been working day and night. Small pleasures like good food, stimulating company and beautiful surroundings have escaped your attention. If you don't change your focus, you'll burn out fast.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

GETTING a little peace and quiet should be your first priority. You're just recovering from a period of frenzied activity. By taking this opportunity to rest, you'll be in good shape for the challenges that face you early next month. Pursuing an interest will be enjoyable.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

YOU'RE making new career plans, which makes your loved ones nervous. Entering a hi-tech industry will cause your star to rise. It might also enable you to live abroad. Although you hate uprooting a youngster, it's the only way to take advantage of the opportunities ahead.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

AN intimate relationship takes an exciting new turn. You and your beloved won't be able to keep your hands off each other in the week ahead. Sneaking off to a private location will give life a welcome dash of adventure, but you should still make time to attend a party.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

IF you've been looking for work, you could find an unusual one related to air travel, technology, or medical research. Although you may not have much previous experience in this field, you will take to it like a duck to water. You Librans are marvelously adaptable!

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

AN opportunity to spend more time at home changes the tone of your personal life. Lately, you've been spending lots of time at clubs, restaurants, and pubs. Now you're able to rest and relax in your own safe haven. If you're been thinking of buying your own place, start looking now.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

YOU have a marvellous opportunity to reinvent yourself in a radical way. Changing your hairstyle, updating your image, and switching industries are among the possibilities. If you've been longing to come out of your shell, now is the time to do so.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

WHO you know is more important than what you know. Be sure to network at every opportunity. Have a supply of business cards on hand; you're sure to meet someone who will advance your social life. New friends will introduce you to a pastime that spices up your life.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

A CHANCE to expand your horizons will fall into your lap quite unexpectedly. This is your big chance to study alongside a respected teacher, chef, or artist. Their methods of instruction will be unconventional, but they will be effective, too. Don't question their advice; just lean into it.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

FORMING a business partnership will give you access to an unusual organisation. In the past, you were forced to take a back seat to people whose skills were inferior to yours. Now you have a chance to show off your talent. A benefactor will give you the funds to launch a project.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

YOU'RE entering an exciting new phase, one that is filled with romance and adventure. If you have a lover, the two of you will rediscover the passion that first drew you together. If you're single you might meet someone special at a technology store or computer class.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

LEARNING a valuable skill will enable you to mix with some unusual people. You've never considered yourself to be particularly adept with technology, but that's about to change. Now you have a good teacher; you're able to work equipment with relative ease.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

Calls cost 75p per minute. Service provided by g8wave London N7

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD & SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

CRYPTIC SOLUTION No126

ACROSS: 1 Whistle-stop 9 Knotty 10 Hidalgo 12 Upsurge 14 Lerwick 15 Conjectured 16 Too 17 Pad 19 Bartholomew 22 Organza 23 Pavlova 24 Instate 25 Sunlit 26 Short-change.
DOWN: 2 Hands-on 3 Set free 4 Lay 5 Scholarship 6 Ordered 7 Plaintiff 8 You-know-what 11 Quick profit 13 External ear 18 Digest 19 Beneath 20 Lavinia 21 Mooring 25 Sac.

QUICK SOLUTION No127

ACROSS: 1 Up in the air 7 Flex 9 Singular 10 Switch 11 Wavelength 14 Resume 15 Resigned 16 Jaded 18 Sessions 20 Video nasty 23 Gandhi 24 Irish Sea 25 Dely 26 Knighthood.
DOWN: 2 No-go 4 Halfwit 5 Arrived 6 Rustler 7 Friendship 8 Excitement 12 Decapitate 13 Quarter-17 Dunkirk 18 Sashtim 19 Sky-high 21 Shah 22 Zeno.

EASY

3	1	2	5	7	8	6	9	4
8	5	9	6	4	2	3	7	1
6	7	4	1	3	9	5	8	2
5	8	3	9	6	4	1	2	7
9	2	7	3	5	1	8	4	6
1	4	6	8	2	7	9	3	5
2	6	5	4	8	3	7	1	9
4	3	1	7	9	5	2	6	8
7	9	8	2	1	6	4	5	3

MEDIUM

6	5	7	3	9	2	8	1	4
8	3	1	6	7	4	2	9	5
9	2	4	8	5	1	6	7	3
1	8	9	4	6	7	3	5	2
2	6	5	9	1	3	7	4	8
7	4	3	5	8	2	1	6	9
4	7	8	1	3	5	9	2	6
5	9	2	7	8	6	4	3	1
3	1	6	2	4	9	5	8	7

HARD

9	5	2	1	3	8	4	7	8
7	1	8	2	4	9	6	3	5
6	3	4	7	5	8	1	2	9
3	9	5	6	2	1	8	4	7
4	8	6	5	9	7	3	1	2
1	2	7	4	8	3	5	9	6
5	4	1	9	6	2	7	8	3
8	7	9	3	1	5	2	6	4
2	6	3	9	7	4	9	5	1

yourcompetition

WIN! Exclusive tickets to see Sharleen Spiteri

HEART 103.1 & 102.8 is staging a number of exclusive and intimate live events called Heart Love Music Live with Barclaycard Unwind.

Heart's next Love Music Live event will be a once-in-a-lifetime gig with the multi-talented singer-songwriter Sharleen Spiteri at Orchid in London's West End on Thursday, March 4 – and YOU and a friend could be there!

Yourlocal has teamed up with Kent's biggest commercial radio station to give away one pair of exclusive, money-can't-buy tickets to see Sharleen Spiteri perform for you, up close and personal at this special intimate gig.

Following her massive success fronting the iconic band Texas and her UK top three debut solo record, Sharleen is back with a brand new album. The Movie Songbook is a collection of her favourite cinematic show-stoppers, featuring popular songs such as Xanadu, a stunning re-worked version of the classic 1980 number one hit.

To enter this fantastic competition simply email your name, address and telephone number to Competitions@kosmedia.co.uk. The winner will be notified on Thursday morning, so please make sure you are free on the Thursday evening to attend this great

music event. Closing date is tonight, Wednesday, March 3 at 5.30pm.

To find out more about Heart's Love Music Live events, tune into Heart Kent on 103.1 & 102.8 FM or visit heart.co.uk

Terms & conditions: The tickets are valid to see Sharleen Spiteri at Orchid in London on Thursday, March 4 2010. Doors open at 7.30pm. Tickets cannot be exchanged or transferred to another performance/artist and there is no cash alternative to the prize. Travel to/from London is not included. The competition is open to over 18s only.

heart
love music live
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20

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FAKE THAT
Friday 19th July
Dinner and disco
£25.00

PINK
Friday 24th September
Dinner and disco
£22.00pp

girls at the grill
on Thursday nights
3 courses and a glass of wine each £25.00 for two.

Mothering Sunday
Monday 14th March
All day Convey
£12.00pp

BLONDIE
Friday 25th July
Dinner and disco
£22.00pp

Amy Winehouse
Friday 25th July
Dinner and disco
£22.00pp

Heroes Ball
Friday 16th October
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£32.00pp

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All day Convey
£15.00pp

UB40
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The Factor
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dinner and disco for a good cause £24.95

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welcome to us

yourmusic

Love folk? Then you should Coco



MUCH LOVED: Coco's Lovers are gaining a reputation for their vibrant live performances

■ BY TOM BETTS

FOLK is back, and it's back with a bang.

The often ridiculed genre is undergoing something of a resurgence, and thanks to bands like Coco's Lovers, it's not difficult to see why.

Blending a battered suitcase full of whimsical harmonies, clattering rhythms and even the odd hand-clap or two, Coco's Lovers are gaining a reputation for joyous live shows and a musical depth that extends beyond the boundaries of a mere genre of the month.

During their performances you can expect to hear guitars, violins, flutes, recorder, tenor banjos, mandolins fighting to be heard over the sound of an appreciative audience.

The success of Fleet Foxes and the brilliant The Decemberists may have helped to kick-start the recent high-profile revival, but here in Kent, Cocos Lovers and their contemporaries are evidence that we have talent locally to sustain a scene beyond trends.

The set up is a true family affair and features brothers, sisters, husbands and wives, so it's no wonder there seems to be a special chemistry between the clan.

The band has captured the myriad melodies and boundless energy from their live shows with their debut album, Johannes.

With a typically rapturous live set promised from the Cocos, who have supported new folk sensations Mumford and Sons, you should expect a good night if you attend launch party for their new release on Saturday.

The record is being issued through small new Kent label Smugglers Records and the party takes place at the Astor Theatre in Stanhope Road, Deal, from 6.30pm until late.

Six of the band's seven members hail from the Cinque Port town and the Astor hosts regular Smugglers nights.

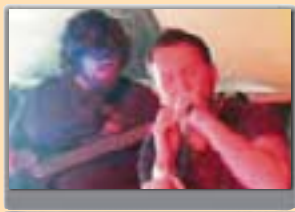
Support comes from the equally brilliant modern blues band Krissy and the Jackdaws and Will Varley, who peddles a fine line of

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yourkenttv.co.uk



Ben Jukes performs 4 Non Blondes' hit What's Up. Search 'Ben'



Los Salvadores performing at Lounge on the Farm. Search 'Salvadores'



TOP FIVE KENT GIGS

- 1 Craig Sheridan - 7/3 The Bohemian Deal
- 2 Audio Bullies - 19/3 Westcoast Bar Margate
- 3 Save Target As - 23/3 Canterbury University
- 4 The Suspects - 26/3 The Rose Broadstairs
- 5 Foreboding Ether - 29/5 Ivy Leaf Sheppy

well-crafted, world-weary acoustic songwriting.

The party will also include a 7pm showing of the Martin Goldsmith's Folk Soul documentary, in which Coco's Lovers feature.

Tickets for the night cost £5 and are available from Soundhouse Records in Deal High Street or by visiting <http://cocoslovers.bigcartel.com/product/album-release-party-tickets>.

Enjoy the Coco's Lovers music at www.myspace.com/cocoslovers.



VINTAGE VESSEL: The Emanuel offers seven-day tours of around the beautiful coastline and islands of Croatia during the summer months

yourgetaways

Enjoy Croatia in all its glory on cruise around the Adriatic

■ BY PETER BEAL

OUR small cruise ship nosed into a deserted bay on the wooded island of Brac in the Adriatic, and we slipped over the side to swim in the crystal-clear waters.

It was the perfect way to cool off at the end of a day that had seen us explore Croatia's second city of Split, with its well-preserved Greek and Roman ruins.

After our refreshing swim in the bay at Brac we clambered back aboard the Emanuel, a compact, vintage-style cruise ship which offers seven-day tours of Croatia's coast and islands this summer.

We moored in Bol on Brac, an old fishing port enjoying something of a boom as a resort.

Along the quayside, the local winery produces the local Bolski Plavac, a red wine made from local black grapes, and where you can enjoy tastings.

About 15 minutes' walk from the harbour is the beach of Zlatni Rat, or Golden Horn, a spectacular mini-peninsula of clean white pebbles stretching out to sea that has been acclaimed as among the world's top ten beaches.

We had spent our first night on board Emanuel moored in the mediaeval walled city of Trogir, an easy drive from Split Airport. The next morning, we headed north by road along the Dalmatian coast.

Fishing ports with their red-roofed houses dot the coastline, including the picturesque Primostan, a small village with narrow, winding streets set on a hilly peninsula.

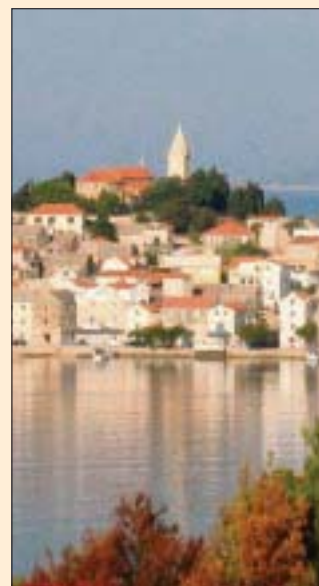
We paused in Sibenik, the most-fortified town in the Adriatic and one-time seat of the Croatian kings,

FACT FILE: CROATIA

Time difference	+ One hour (GMT)
Capital	Zagreb
Language	Croatian
Currenty	Kuna
Religion	Roman Catholic

Peter Beal was a guest of Saga Holidays which offers a new seven-day Dalmatian Island Explorer cruise between May and October 2010 from £799, including return flights, transfers, insurance, full board, local wines, beers and soft drinks with punch and dinner, free bar open for 11 hours a day, all gratuities on board, and some excursions.

- With MV Emanuel sold out, future bookings are aboard The Vapor.
- Connecting flights ex-Manchester from £76, ex-Glasgow from £74.
- Seven-day extension stay at a five-star hotel in Dubrovnik starts at £349.
- Saga reservations: 0800 056 5880 and www.saga.co.uk/travel



to admire the magnificent 15th century St Jakob's Cathedral, which took 105 years to build with stone from Brac.

Further north is Zadar, an ancient and imposing town surrounded almost entirely by water and where film director Alfred Hitchcock, on a visit in the 1960s, pronounced its sunsets as the most beautiful he had seen in the world.

To the south is the 36-mile long Makarska Riviera, above which towers the 5,780-foot Mount Biokovo, a seemingly inaccessible mass of rock.

No-one should miss the historic walled city of Dubrovnik, dubbed the 'pearl of the Adriatic' by George

Bernard Shaw and rebuilt after the pounding it took from the Yugoslav Army and Serb rebels in the early 1990s.

When crowds from visiting cruise ships dispersed by mid-afternoon, we took the mile-and-a-half walk around the massive city walls, 10 to 20foot thick walls, looking down on the red roofs of restored buildings and the streets below.

Croatia has so much to offer visitors: magnificent buildings, a huge choice of watersports, miles of good walking, great beaches. With an expert guide to point the way, its history and heritage is utterly absorbing.

MOTORS NEWS



New Polo Bluemotion is the greenest VW yet

ORDER books are open for VW's most miserly BlueMotion model yet – the new Polo version should average 80mpg.

Priced at £14,445 for the three-door and £15,045 for the five-door model, the car uses a 74bhp 1.2-litre TDI three-cylinder diesel. It saves fuel and emissions through better aerodynamics and recovering energy via regenerative braking and an automatic start/stop system – the car is road tax exempt due to CO2 emissions of just 91g/km – yet can hit 62mph in 13.9 seconds.



Chevy sparking interest in the city car sector

CHEVROLET'S Matiz city car was popular and cheap, but was stigmatised by association with older drivers.

Chevy is keen to ensure its Spark successor – launched officially on March 12 – suffers no such fate. The five-door Spark (£6,945) has dynamic styling for such a compact car, but the American value brand is also marketing it to younger buyers with personalised graphics, or 'Tags'.

Three different graphic sets are available plus co-ordinated floor mats at a cost of £199 all fitted.



It's a last hurrah from Honda on Scrappage

HONDA has re-launched a popular zero per cent finance offer on the versatile Jazz to help customers make the most of the last month of Scrappage.

The Jazz supermini – now built at Honda's Swindon plant – has been the brand's best-seller via the Government-backed £2,000-a-time Scrappage grant scheme, ending on March 31.

Owners of cars 10 years or more old can still get the £2,000 though, plus that zero per cent HP deal over two years – also available to non-Scrappage customers.



ROOM WITH A VIEW: Renault's Kangoo has taken the chassis from the latest Scenic MPV giving it a longer wheelbase than its predecessor, boosting the ride quality and interior

Even more 'can do' comes from the all-new Kangoo

ROAD TEST RENAULT KANGOO

■ BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

for a bigger cabin, taking five adults in comfort with three proper seats and acres of space in the back. Back seats fold in one movement for a completely flat cargo area.

Mid-range Expression trim (as tested) brings overhead lockers and shelving, folding tables on front seatbacks, multi-position parcel shelf and folding front passenger seat.

However, the dashboard betrays van origins; it works well enough, but you are faced by a grim acreage of plastic though the situation is rescued partly by the glassy airiness and pleasant driving manners of the Kangoo.

Two 1.6-litre petrol options are available, but the 1.5dCi diesel is the big draw. I like this engine's flexibility and Renault underlines the point by offering three outputs: 68PS (67bhp), 86PS (85bhp) and 106PS (104bhp).

The first two have less than 140g/km of CO2 emissions, so they qualify for Renault's eco2 'green label' though still attracting £120/year in road tax and £110 after 1 April.

The 86PS unit fitted to the test car proved to be about right for the Kangoo, with a good mix of economy and power for a vehicle that may be worked hard as a family troop carrier or even a commercially-operated courtesy vehicle or taxi.



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VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data – Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (litres/100km): The All New Astra Range: urban – from 28.8 (9.9) to 49.6 (5.7), Extra-urban – from 50.4 (5.6) to 68.9 (4.1), Combined – from 39.8 (7.1) to 60.1 (4.7). CO₂ Emissions from 167 to 124g/km.

MINIMUM DEPOSIT OF 50% REQUIRED ON EXCLUSIV MODELS AND 30% ON ALL OTHER MODELS. Finance by GMAC UK plc, applicants must be aged 18 or over. Offer available to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). All other sales categories are excluded. Offers may not apply to all Retailer stocks and apply to selected new vehicles ordered or registered between 04.12.09 and 31.03.10, and are subject to status, eligibility, terms and conditions. (Vaux88638)



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**AGILA**

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2005	55	Agila Expression	1.0	5	Star silver	24,800	3,695
2009	09	Agila Design Auto	1.2	5	Sugar white	2,290	9,495
2009	09	Agila Club A/c	1.2	5	Atlanta blue	6,350	8,995
2009	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Atlanta Blue	Del mileage	10,495
2009	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Sugar white	Del mileage	10,495

ASTRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2006	56	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Panacotta	21,950	8,295
2006	56	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Moonland	28,600	7,495
2007	07	Astra Design Twin top	1.8	2	Air blue	10,240	10,995
2008	58	Astra Sri TBO X Pack	1.6	3	Metro blue	8,300	12,995
2008	58	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Flame red	12,000	9,695
2008	58	Astra Sri Ex Pack	1.8	3	Black sapphire	5,960	12,495
2009	09	Astra Breeze CDTi	1.7D	5	Silver lightening	7,190	10,845
2009	09	Astra Breeze Sports hatch	1.7D	3	Black sapphire	6,250	11,695
2009	09	Astra Club	1.4	5	Star silver	5,690	9,795
2009	09	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Green spirit	5,300	10,995
2009	59	Astra Sxi Sports Hatch	1.6	3	Sovereign silver	Del mileage	12,995
2009	59	Astra Life A/c	1.6	5	Metro blue	Del mileage	11,995
2009	59	Astra Active	1.4	5	Black sapphire	Del mileage	11,995
2009	59	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Black sapphire	Del mileage	12,995

CORSA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2006	56	Corssa Sxi+ A/c	1.2	3	Black sapphire	41,800	5,995
2008	08	Corssa VXR Nav	1.6	3	Flame red	11,580	13,995
2008	57	Corssa Design Auto	1.4	3	Star silver	34,500	7,995
2008	08	Corssa Breeze	1.2	3	Star silver	12,220	7,995
2008	58	Corssa Sxi CDTi A/c	1.3D	5	Star silver	17,750	9,495
2009	09	Corssa Club Auto A/c	1.4	5	Air blue	3,250	9,995
2009	09	Corssa Sxi CDTi A/c	1.3	3	Black sapphire	9,670	9,995
2009	09	Corssa Active	1.2	5	Silver lightening	6,520	8,995

INSIGNIA & SIGNUM

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2009	58	Insignia Elite Auto Nav	2.0	5	Star silver	6,300	18,995
2009	09	Insignia Tourer Exclusive	1.8	5	Black sapphire	9,300	13,995
2009	09	Insignia Sports Tourer Exclusive CDTi	1.9D	5	Technical grey	5,300	16,995

MERIVA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2006	06	Meriva Design	1.4	5	Silver	36,030	6,995
2006	56	Meriva Life A/c	1.4	5	Steel blue	19,730	6,495
2007	57	Meriva Design CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	34,950	8,495
2009	09	Meriva Active CDTi	1.3D	5	Ultra blue	8,750	10,495
2009	59	Meriva Active CDTi +	1.3D	5	Star silver		12,995

TIGRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2006	06	Tigra Exclusiv	1.4	2	Air blue	30,500	8,395
2007	07	Tigra Exclusive Red	1.4	2	Metro blue	32,500	9,495
2009	59	Tigra Exclusive	1.4	2	Antigua	2,120	11,995

VECTRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2005	55	Vectra Sri	1.8	5	Blue	35,950	5,995
2006	06	Vectra elite CDTi (150)	1.9D	5	Black Sapphire	38,125	7,995
2006	56	Vectra Life CDTi A/c	1.9D	5	Black	27,780	7,495
2007	57	Vectra CDTi Elite (150ps)	1.9D	5	Black sapphire	44,510	9,495
2008	08	Vectra Design	1.8	4	Panacotta	25,050	8,995
2008	08	Vectra Sri	1.8	5	Black sapphire	27,800	8,995
2008	58	Vectra Exclusive	1.8	5	Black sapphire	15,390	9,295

ZAFIRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2006	56	Zafira Club	1.6	5	Metro blue	40,250	7,795
2007	57	Zafira Sri CDTi	1.9D	5	Metro blue	31,670	11,995
2009	09	Zafira Exclusive	1.8	5	Star silver	3,725	12,995
2009	09	Zafira Sri XP CDTi	1.9D	5	Star silver	3,780	16,495

DUE SOON

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2003	53*	Corssa Design	1.2	5	Spearmint silver	43,000	3,495
2006	56	Corssa Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Flame red	37,000	7,995
2007	07	Corssa Design CDTi	1.2	3	Flame red	38,000	6,995
2006	06	Meriva Active MTA	1.6	5	Metro blue	32,000	6,495
2005	55	Astra Design Sports hatch	1.6	5	Star silver	42,000	7,495
2007	07	Astra Design CDTi Estate Auto	1.9	5	Silver lightening	18,000	9,495
2007	57	Astra Sri CDTi X Pack	1.9D	5	Ultra blue	16,800	10,495
2007	57	Astra VXR	2.0	3	Arden blue	24,000	13,995

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What Car? magazine has given the new Superb Estate an excellent write-up in its first review, calling the car "big, comfortable, plush and fine value".

The magazine was particularly impressed by the value-for-money offered by the Superb Estate, saying it's, "cracking value and undercuts the equivalent Mondeo Estate by thousands."



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Finished in Beige Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 21,200 miles. £5,995

Skoda Octavia 1.9 TDI PD Classic 5-Dr Hatchback

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Suzuki Wagon R 1.3 GL 75 BHP 5-Door Hatchback

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Citroen C3 Pluriel 1.6 2-Door Cabriolet

Finished in Artic Steel Metallic with a Grey Cloth - Velour interior, 86,467 miles. £4,495

Suzuki Wagon R 1.3 Special 5-Door Hatchback

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Vauxhall Astra 1.8 2-Door Convertible

Finished in Moonland Metallic with a Black Leather interior, 41,000 miles. £5,795

SEAT Alhambra 1.9 TDI PD SE (130 BHP) 5-Door MPV

Finished in Pearl Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 92,500 miles. £6,295

SEAT Ibiza 1.2 12v Reference Sport 3-Door Hatchback

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Vauxhall Astra 1.8 16v Design 5-Door Estate

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Vauxhall Astra 1.6 Club 16v 5-Door Hatchback

Finished in Silver Lightning Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 33,364 miles. £6,995

Peugeot 307 CC 2.0 16V 180

Finished in Silver Metallic with a Black Leather interior, 32,747 miles. £7,795

SEAT Toledo 1.9 TDI PD Stylance 5-Door Hatchback

Finished in Nayara Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 20,695 miles. £8,495

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Offer available on all Fabia and Octavia models ordered before 31st March 2010 at participating retailers only. Reduction applied to the RRP including factory fitted optional extras and is equivalent of the VAT applicable at the time. VAT is applicable and will be shown on the customer's invoice. †Savings shown relate to RRP's of the Fabia Scout 1.9 TDI PD 105bhp and the Octavia L&K estate 2.0 TDI PD 140bhp DSG. Excludes the channel islands. Prices are accurate at time of print. Offer is not available in conjunction with the Government's scrappage scheme. *£2,500 saving off the RRP is available across the full Skoda range with up to an additional £1,000 off the RRP on selected Octavia models dependent on the vehicle meeting the full Government scrappage incentive criteria. The Government scrappage payment applies to vehicles registered on or before 29th February 2000 when traded-in against a new car subject to conditions. Not available in conjunction with any other offer. Terms & Conditions apply. Offer is subject to availability and may be varied or withdrawn at any time. At participating retailers only. Please see you local retailer for full terms and conditions. Prices are accurate at time of print. Model shown Superb Estate Elegance 2.0 TDI CR 140bhp 6spd DPF at £24,280 RRP inc optional metallic paint at £410 RRP. Tinted windows not to UK specification. *Specification shown is standard on Elegance and optional on SE models only.



PROPERTY NEWS

Families help out the younger generation instead of saving

PARENTS helping their children get on to the property ladder is the main reason behind the growing property market in the past ten months.

According to one investment advisor, they realise that putting their money into housing is likely to provide a better return than keeping it in the bank.

Stuart Law, chief executive officer at property investment advice group Assetz said: "Parents are coming to the conclusion they should perhaps be helping their children with this money, rather than seeing it languish in a bank account where there's no interest being paid."

More products entering the mortgage market, including higher loan-to-value deals, are also boosting the housing market, Mr Law continued. He predicted five per cent growth for the property market this year, adding that it is dealing with the risks still present.

Figures from the National Association of Estate Agents revealed that the percentage of sales made to first-time buyers increased from 19 per cent in December 2009 to 23 per cent last month.

We're optimistic about repaying the mortgage

RESEARCH by The Co-operative Bank Mortgages has discovered that 62 per cent of the UK's population hopes to become mortgage-free by the time they reach the age of 50.

Either through over-paying on their mortgages to taking advantage of low interest rate deals, 52 per cent of homeowners believed that by becoming mortgage free their lives would be better.

Continuing in their findings, The Co-operative Bank also revealed:

- 52 per cent would take more holidays
- 31 per cent would turn their attention to saving more for retirement
- 27 per cent would change their working lives by either quitting work or reducing their hours to part-time

And looking at homeowners methods for achieving this goal, they appear to be on the right track.

Whilst 31 per cent of those surveyed cited that they aimed to reduce the term of their mortgage through overpaying every month, a further 21 per cent planned to take advantage of the low interest rate environment.



Part-exchange to secure your dream

■ BY NICK AMES

RELOCATION from town to country continues to be an attractive option and experts say such moves are set to increase as the market picks up.

One couple who recently took such action are Paul and Marilyn Jarvis.

They lived in a modern, three-bedroom detached house in Hawkinge, near Folkestone, but wanted to make a move to a real country village, so that their future life was settled in a home that was perfect for their needs.

"We have lived in Hawkinge for many years but there has recently been a lot of new building which has changed the character of the area greatly and we wanted to move to a new environment where we could put down roots for the future" said Paul.

The couple marketed their home at the same time as looking for their dream property but it was several months before they found exactly what they wanted – in the village of Goodnestone.

Dream

"At the time we found this lovely development of new homes on the edge of the village, we had still not sold our own home so it was a relief to know that having found the home we wanted to buy, that we were not going to lose it through lack of a sale on our own property," said Paul.

"The Part Exchange Scheme was very efficient and fair and saved us an estate agency fee. Within a few weeks we were packing up and moving."

What caught the attention of Paul and Marilyn was Hillreed's FitzWalter's Meadow a development offering a choice of homes, all architecturally designed specifically to reflect



HAPPY MOVERS: Paul and Marilyn Jarvis took advantage of the Part Exchange Scheme when buying their home

the local vernacular, which is exceptional.

Added Paul: "The location fulfilled exactly what we had been looking for. We were equally pleased with the quality of build of the homes – the wonderful, 'cottage' feel, the well planned and beautifully presented kitchen and bathrooms and the overall excitement of finding a home that was truly different.

Hillreed Homes have four properties remaining at FitzWalter's Meadow in Boyes

Lane. There is a three bedroom mid terraced house with car port and carpets already fitted for £229,950. There is also another three bedroom mid terrace house with greater living space plus parking at £244,950.

A four bedroom end of terrace house with car port and carpets already fitted is on the market for £299,950. Finally, plot seven offers 2,430 sq ft of living space and is a three storey detached house with garage for £529,950.

Prospective tenants warned over deposit scam

AN increasingly widespread scam is targeting the buy-to-let sector – and it involves prospective tenants who are conned into sending deposits or money transfers to confidence tricksters posing as landlords.

A growing number of would-be tenants looking to find rooms and flats for rent in newspaper classifieds or online later discover the rental unit in question does not even exist.

Prospective tenants are told the landlord of a given property is overseas and as such, can-

not show the flat or room in question, until the potential applicant proves their good financial standing by sending a "secure" money transfer to a close friend or family member.

The con artist posing as a landlord then asks the prospective tenant to forward a copy of the transaction receipt.

However without the tenant being aware, this document contains information which is often enough to allow the confidence trickster to actually collect the transferred amount,

before the proper recipient has a chance to access the funds.

Citizens Advice noted that anyone looking to rent a home should realize that legitimate landlords will not ask prospective tenants to make a deposit before actually seeing the property in question.

But people have fallen victim to the scam, including a student who reportedly lost £1,800 after sending a transfer for a rental flat she had seen advertised on the internet.

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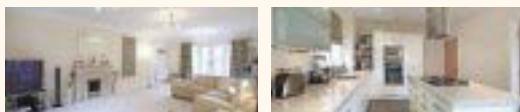
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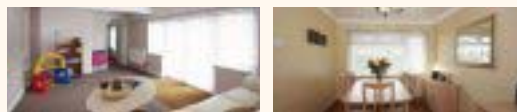


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• EN-SUITE AND DRESSING ROOM TO MASTER

• DETACHED GARAGE
• SUITABLE FOR OFFICE / HOME WORKING
• SPACIOUS THROUGHOUT
• INTERNAL VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

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• 4 BEDROOM DETACHED FARMHOUSE
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• UNOBSTRUCTED RIVER VIEWS

• TURN OUT AREA & PADDOCKS
• STABLES & STORAGE BARN
• DETACHED DOUBLE GARAGE
• PRIVATE DRIVE & GATED ENTRANCE

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• CHARACTER PROPERTY
• 2 BEDROOMS
• 2 RECEPTIONS
• COURT YARD COURT

• 17th CENTURY LISTED HOME
• SOUGHT AFTER LOCATION
• WALKING DISTANCE TO HIGH STREET
• ORIGINAL FEATURES

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REF: Prestige_60097S



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• 2 BEDROOM DETACHED ANNEXE
• 3 RECEPTION ROOMS
• EN-SUITE TO MASTER

• SUN TERRACE
• UTILITY ROOM
• FAMILY BATHROOM
• 220FT DRIVEWAY

£619,995

REF: Prestige_59894S

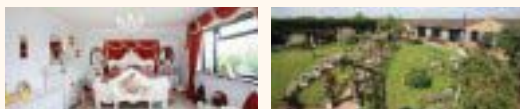


Higham
• 5 BEDROOM DETACHED HOME
• SOUGHT AFTER LOCATION
• 2 RECEPTION ROOMS
• VERSATILE ACCOMMODATION

• SHOWER ROOM
• 2 EN-SUITES
• 1 BED DETACHED ANNEX
• COUNTRYSIDE VIEWS

£650,000

REF: Prestige_59893S

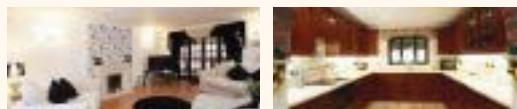


Iwade
• 5 BEDROOM DETACHED HOME
• REFURBISHED THROUGHOUT
• 1 BEDROOM ANNEX
• APPROX 26FT LOUNGE

• HIGH SPEC KITCHEN
• INDOOR SWIMMING POOL
• GAMES ROOM
• 3 GARAGES (2 DOUBLES)

Guide Price £550,000 £575,000

REF: Prestige_59896S

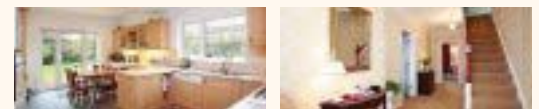


Walderslade
• EXECUTIVE DETACHED HOUSE
• 4 BEDROOMS
• VILLAGE LOCATION
• EN-SUITE

• 2 RECEPTION ROOMS
• FAMILY BATHROOM
• STUDY
• DOUBLE GARAGE

£525,000

REF: Prestige_59897S



Hempstead
• DETACHED HOME
• 4 BEDROOMS
• LARGE ENTRANCE HALL
• KITCHEN/BREAKFAST ROOM

• LOUNGE DINING ROOM
• CLOAK ROOM & UTILITY ROOM
• INTEGRAL GARAGE
• INTERNAL VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

£350,000

REF: Prestige_60073S



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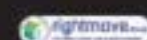
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 • FIRST FLOOR BATHROOM
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- MODERN KITCHEN
- REAR GARDEN
- NO FORWARD CHAIN

REF: Walderslade_62139S

£142,500



Gillingham
 • 2 BEDROOM
 • MAISONETTE
 • GAS CENTRAL HEATING
 • POTENTIAL FOR OFF ROAD PARKING (STUPP)



- OWN GARDEN
- NO CHAIN
- GROUND FLOOR
- NO THROUGH ROAD

REF: Rainham_62292S

£110,000



Gillingham TO LET £995pcm
 • 4 BEDROOM TERRACED HOME
 • FURNISHED
 • DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM
 • IDEAL FOR STUDENTS

REF: inst-331



Walderslade
 • 3 BEDROOM HOUSE
 • LOUNGE
 • KITCHEN/DINER
 • CLOAKROOM



- POPULAR LOCATION
- DOUBLE GLAZING
- NO FORWARD CHAIN
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING

REF: Walderslade_61519S

£134,000



Gillingham
 • 3 BEDROOMS
 • TERRACE HOUSE
 • 1 RECEPTION ROOM
 • CONSERVATORY



- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- GARAGE
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- POPULAR LOCATION

REF: Rainham_62027S

£169,995



Kingfisher Meadow TO LET £750pcm
 • 2 DOUBLE BEDROOM APARTMENT
 • INTEGRATED KITCHEN
 • LOUNGE WITH BALCONY
 • ALLOCATED PARKING FOR 1 CAR

REF: inst-338



Chatham
 • STARTER HOME
 • 1 DOUBLE BEDROOM
 • 1 RECEPTION ROOM
 • DOUBLE GLAZING



- POPULAR LOCATION
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- WELL PRESENTED
- NO FORWARD CHAIN

REF: Walderslade_59947S

£112,000



Gillingham
 • TERRACE HOUSE
 • 2 BEDROOM
 • NO CHAIN
 • IN NEED OF FINISHING OFF



- UPSTAIRS BATHROOM
- MOSTLY DOUBLE GLAZED
- 1 RECEPTION ROOM
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING

REF: Rainham_61646S

£129,995



Sittingbourne TO LET £695pcm
 • 1 BEDROOM DETACHED BUNGALOW
 • FITTED KITCHEN
 • BATHROOM WITH SHOWER OVER BATH
 • INTERNAL VIEWINGS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

REF: inst-299



Frindsbury
 • 3 BEDROOM SEMI TOWN HOUSE
 • KITCHEN/DINER
 • LOUNGE
 • MASTER BEDROOM EN-SUITE



- CLOAKROOM
- DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- WELL PRESENTED
- COURTYARD GARDEN

REF: Walderslade_61412S

£249,995



Rainham
 • TERRACED HOME
 • 2 BEDROOMS
 • 1 RECEPTION ROOM
 • UPSTAIRS BATHROOM



- Guide Price £150,000 £160,000**
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
 - DOUBLE GLAZING
 - GARAGE EN BLOC TO REAR
 - POPULAR AREA

REF: Rainham_61622S



Rainham TO LET £500pcm
 • 2 DOUBLE BEDROOM APARTMENT
 • LOUNGE / KITCHEN
 • BATHROOM WITH WHITE SUITE
 • POPULAR LOCATION

REF: inst-318



Cliffe woods
 • DETACHED CHALET BUNGALOW
 • 4 BEDROOM
 • FAMILY ROOM
 • 3 RECEPTIONS



- DRESSING ROOM
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- UTILITY ROOM
- CLOAKROOM

REF: Walderslade_61436S

Guide Price £410,000 £420,000



Gillingham
 • SEMI DETACHED EDWARDIAN PROPERTY
 • 3 / 4 BEDROOMS
 • 2 FURTHER LOFT ROOMS
 • 2/3 RECEPTIONS



- Price Range £275,000 £295,000**
- SOME ORIGINAL FEATURES
 - LARGE GARDEN
 - VIEWS OVER GOLF COURSE
 - SOUGHT AFTER ROAD

REF: Rainham_61642S



Chatham TO LET £625pcm
 • 2 DOUBLE BEDROOM HOME
 • 2 RECEPTION ROOMS
 • BATHROOM WITH WHITE SUITE
 • REAR GARDEN

REF: inst-322



Chatham
 • 2 BEDROOM TERRACED
 • MODERN FITTED KITCHEN
 • DOUBLE BEDROOMS
 • DINING AREA



- LOUNGE
- DOUBLE GLAZING
- DOUBLE CHAMBERED CELLAR
- POPULAR LOCATION

REF: Walderslade_62977S

£125,000



Sittingbourne
 • ONE BEDROOM DEBUT HOME
 • LOUNGE DINER
 • REFITTED KITCHEN
 • JULIET BALCONY



- GUIDE PRICE £85,000 - £95,000**
- ACCOMMODATION OVER 2 FLOORS
 - ALLOCATED PARKING
 - COMMUNAL GARDENS
 - INTERNAL VIEWINGS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

REF: Rainham_60563S



Gillingham TO LET £695pcm
 • 3 BEDROOM TERRACED PROPERTY
 • LOUNGE / KITCHEN / DINER
 • FRONT & REAR GARDENS
 • INTERNAL VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

REF: inst-337

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Princes Park
• 3 BEDROOM END OF TERRACE
• LOUNGE
• KITCHEN/DINER
• CLOAKROOM



• DOUBLE GLAZING
• POPULAR LOCATION
• IDEAL FAMILY HOME
• NO FORWARD CHAIN

£139,995

REF: Walderslade_60140S



Gillingham
• 3 BEDROOMS
• TERRACE HOUSE
• 1 RECEPTION ROOM
• CONSERVATORY



• GAS CENTRAL HEATING
• GARAGE
• OFF ROAD PARKING
• POPULAR LOCATION

£169,995

REF: Rainham_62027S



Rainham TO LET £850pcm
• 4 BEDROOM SEMI DET HOME
• LOUNGE / DINER WITH OAK FLOORING
• FAMILY BATHROOM WITH SHOWER OVER BATH
• GARDEN AND GARAGE EN-BLOC

REF: inst-307



Rochester
• NEW PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT
• 4/5 DETACHED EXECUTIVE HOMES
• 6 PLOTS AVAILABLE
• GAMES ROOMS/FAMILY ROOMS



• UTILITY ROOM
• DOUBLE GARAGES
• FAR REACHING COUNTRY VIEWS
• ENSUITES & BALCONIES

£420,000

REF: Walderslade_60992S



Rainham
• SEMI DETACHED BUNGALOW
• 3 BEDROOMS
• 2 RECEPTION ROOMS
• KITCHEN



Guide Price £250,000 £275,000
• CLOAKROOM
• GARAGE & DRIVE
• APPROX 250FT GARDEN
• NO CHAIN

REF: Rainham_62427S



Walderslade Woods TO LET £995pcm
• 4 BEDROOM DETACHED HOME
• KITCHEN / DINER
• "L" SHAPED LOUNGE
• REAR GARDEN AND GARAGE

REF: inst-335



Rainham
• 3 BEDROOM DETACHED
• 2/3 RECEPTION ROOMS
• CONSERVATORY
• SEMI RURAL LOCATION



• LARGE GARDEN
• DRIVE FOR SEVERAL VEHICLES
• COUNTRYSIDE VIEWS
• DOUBLE GLAZING

£270,000

REF: Rainham_60591S



Maidstone
• CONVERSION APARTMENT
• 2 BEDROOMS
• LOUNGE
• SASH WINDOWS



• WELL PRESENTED
• KITCHEN/BREAKFAST ROOM
• ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
• TOWN CENTRE

OIEO £130,000

REF: Walderslade_61150S



Rainham TO LET £695pcm
• 2 / 3 BEDROOM DETACHED BUNGALOW
• KITCHEN / DINING ROOM
• BATHROOM WITH SHOWER OVER BATH
• GARAGE - POPULAR LOCATION

REF: 43913

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Sittingbourne

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- two receptions, utility room,
- garage and off street parking.

OIEO £185,000

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Iwade



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£149,995

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Sittingbourne



£159,995

well-presented end of terraced house. Cloakroom. Lounge opens to dining area and fitted kitchen.

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£164,995

Two bedroom cottage with loft room, garage, lounge, kitchen/diner, conservatory & two bathrooms. garden.

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- Minster On Sea, Sheerness
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Newington | Price Range: £165,000 - £180,000

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- 3 bedrooms, views over fields.
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Queenborough | Price Range £95,000 - £110,000

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Saint George's

Church of England School

Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS

Tel: 01474 533082 • Fax: 01474 561536

HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Southgate BDAKC

Church of England, Voluntary Aided, Humanities College
11-18, Mixed, Comprehensive School

DIRECTOR OF MATHEMATICS

TLR1a (£12,114) or L8 – L12

(negotiable based on experience)

We wish to appoint an excellent classroom practitioner to lead, develop and promote excellence in teaching and learning in Maths.

Maths is taught to A Level and 53% of students achieved grades A*-C in Maths in 2009. We are fully staffed with specialist mathematicians.

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All appointments are subject to List 99 and enhanced CRB checks.

Contact us to request further details and an application form.

Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk or visit our website www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk

Closing Date : 24 March 2010

Commercial Manager

An experienced Commercial Manager is required to head up our team of estimators working as a specialist subcontractor in the social housing refurbishment sector. With contract values up to £6.5 million pa, candidates must be able to demonstrate expertise, flair and innovation in the preparation of Tenders, PQQ's and managing and assisting in Partnering Submissions for RSL's and Local Authorities as well as liaising closely with the commercial sales team and assisting with job cost feed back. Based at the company's Head Office in Ramsgate, Kent, there will be a requirement for visits to sites and meetings with clients. Offered is a salary appropriate to your experience, together with contributory pension scheme.

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Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference 639.

Closing date: Monday 8 March 2010.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity no: 292824.

www.kca.org.uk



The John Townsend Trust

Royal School for Deaf Children Margate
Westgate College for Deaf People
Community Living Services
Monkhill Farm

Residential Support Workers

£15,323 - 18,683 dependant on experience

You will:

- Be able to commit to flexible rotas including weekends and sleep-ins
- Be able to follow written care plans and maintain accurate records
- Be willing to learn British Sign Language and undertake other training (mandatory to pass in first year)
- Have experience of working co-operatively in a team.

You will demonstrate commitment to our Child and Adult Protection policies and procedures

We are committed to equal opportunities and diversity and welcome applications from all groups and communities. All positions are subject to an Enhanced CRB Disclosure check, satisfactory references, proof of qualifications and a fully checkable work history.

For application packs please contact Human Resources Department

Telephone 01843 227561, email: hr@royalschoolfordeaf.kent.sch.uk

Or download an application form from our website: www.townsendtrust.org



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We are looking for Nurses who have experience of working with elderly residents with Dementia. This is an exciting opportunity to use your nursing skills within a supportive and flexible team environment.

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The successful applicants must have a valid NMC PIN.

For more information please contact
Miss Kate Sheppard Home Manager on
01304 821 331 or
Email kate@abbeyhealthcare.org.uk

Veterinary Nurse/ Receptionist

work involves reception, surgery and cleaning.

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Medway Scale D2, points 12 – 21

£15,039 - £19,126 (pro rata)

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We are looking for somebody with:

- Good level of education, with GCSE's (or equivalent) in Maths and English
- Experience of using Microsoft Office (particularly Word and Excel)
- Excellent organisational skills and attention to detail
- Knowledge of school office work desirable
- Enthusiasm and a good sense of humour

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post.

Closing Date: 5th March 2010

For further details and a job description, please contact Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Rochester,

Kent, ME2 3SP. (Tel: 01634 338236), stating the position for which you are applying.

Please note CV's will not be accepted.



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Ref: SE567

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25 hours per week, 38 weeks per year

Salary: £14,588- £16,638 pro-rata

Maidstone

We are looking to recruit a Kitchen Assistant to provide kitchen support for our Apprentice Restaurant and to help both students and Lecturers in the Catering department. A background in catering is essential, plus basic food hygiene and Health and Safety certificates.

Closing date: Friday 5 March 2010

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer



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DISAPPOINTED: Shane Byrne was way off the pace in Australia

Shakey start to World Superbikes bid

MOTORSPORT

THE World Superbike season started disappointingly for Shane Byrne after he failed to finish inside the top-ten in either race at Australia's Phillip Island circuit.

Starting from the fifth row of the grid for the first race, Byrne dropped to 17th before raising his game slightly and crossing the line in 14th place.

Byrne's Althea team-mate, Carlos Checa, started on the front row but was unable to capitalise and was left battling for fourth place before being forced to settle for seventh.

There was a similar tale in race two for Byrne, from Sheppey, who started 18th and despite edging his way into contention for a top-ten finish, got caught up in the third group of riders and eventually came in 12th.

Checa, meanwhile, put a smile on Althea faces as he battled his way up to fourth before embarking on a series of overtaking manoeuvres to pass Sylvain Guintoli, Michel Fabrizio and

Leon Haslam to clinch an extraordinary victory.

Byrne said: "In the first race I made it very difficult for myself. I knew I had to make as many passes as possible to get near the front. I had good rhythm but I was not so happy with the result."

"The first thing to say about race two is congratulations to Carlos and to the whole team for the win."

"There are too many fast riders to be able to start from 18th and expect a good finish, but I got up as far as about tenth place which wasn't so bad."

Picture (COS KUPCO



WASTED CHANCE: Sheppey should have won

Sheppey fail to make most of dominance

Ashford 26 Sheppey 23

SHEPPEY'S winning run came to an end at Ashford on Saturday, although the Islanders will feel hard done-by having led for long spells of the game.

Brad Box has been in terrific kicking form in recent weeks and he set the ball rolling with an early penalty for Sheppey, following good work by Tariu Kautai.

Box then doubled his tally to put Sheppey 6-0 ahead, although Ashford were quick to respond and Peter Water crossed to score following a line-out.

With JJ Murray adding the conversion, Ashford led 7-6 but Box kicked his third penalty of the afternoon to put the visitors back in front.

Dylan Davies then scored Sheppey's first try of the game with Box converting to open the gap to nine points.

Ashford retaliated once again, varying their line-out to good effect as Paul Cowie's catch and drive from 12 metres pulled the score back to 16-14, following Murray's conversion.

The tries kept coming, with Sheppey next to strike – Paul Clifford adding the final touch to a classic forward push and Box adding the extras.

At 23-14, the game looked certain to go the way of the visitors but Murray picked his way through the Sheppey defence and touched down, although his conversion attempt struck the crossbar.

It was left to Murray's brother, Liam, to complete the Ashford comeback as his chip kick took a fortuitous bounce, allowing him to cross for the winning score with JJ converting.

Sheppey's late pressure came to nothing and they were forced to accept a painful defeat. The Islanders are next in action on Saturday when they face Becehamians at The Ditch.

PLEASE SEND YOUR SPORTS STORIES TO SPORTS EDITOR GLENN PEARSON AT glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk



WELL BEATEN: Norton Sports find the going tough at Sevenoaks as they pay the price for missing out on several fixtures recently due to the poor weather

Norton find Sevenoaks too strong in a heavy defeat

FOOTBALL

BY COLIN PAGE

Sevenoaks Town 4

Atkins 14, 19, Ward 56, Akpoveta 90

Norton Sports 1

Ellis 90

they could have snatched a goal before the break.

The second-half saw Taylor's side pushing forward to get themselves on the scoresheet but within 11 minutes of the restart they were once again caught on the counter-attack.

Akpoveta's diagonal cross-field ball was collected by Atkins and his cross was met by captain Danny Ward, who headed home despite Norton's protests that Michael Green's shirt had been pulled in the build-up.

Norton kept going but continued to be frustrated in front of goal, when Lewis Rivett's point-blank header was blocked by Funnell and substitute James Ellis then saw his effort clawed away.

The scoring had not yet concluded, though, as

Norton Sports starting XI



Subs used: Sharman, Newman, Ellis

both sides netted in stoppage-time. First, Joe Creasey's free-kick was flicked home by the head of Akpoveta before Ellis, with virtually the last kick of the game, tucked home a consolation goal for Norton.

Next up for Taylor and Norton is a home game against Erith Town on Saturday, less than a month after losing 3-2 to the same side. Norton's postponements mean they have now played fewer games than any other side and Taylor must negotiate a further 14 fixtures with his small squad.

Norton were in Kent League action last night as they welcomed Holmesdale to Winch's Field for their first home game since October. Log on to www.yoursware.co.uk for details.

Win pushes Lilywhites title rivals out of touch

FOOTBALL

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Faversham Town 2

Hickman 14, Sinden 52

Hythe Town 1

Chandler 29

RICHARD Sinden's second-half tap-in gave Faversham Town a deserved win which left Hythe needing a miracle to get back into the Kent League title race.

A rare effort from Lilywhites skipper Tom Hickman put the home side in front, but a slip by Rob French allowed a hopeful Martin Chandler centre to cross the line. Lee Shearer appeared to have headed Faversham in front at a corner, only for the referee to wave play on, but Richard Sinden netted the decisive strike early in the second-half.

Faversham boss Justin Luchford was pleased with the result, which ensured he did not need to dwell on Shearer's goal.

He said: "I don't think there could be many arguments. They hit the post right at the end and I think if that had gone in it would have been a bit unjust.

"They didn't really threaten us, even the goal they scored was a bit unlucky – Frenchy just



DELIGHT: Delight: Faversham's players congratulate Richard Sinden (top) after the striker scored the winner

said he lost his footing at the last minute. I was more concerned that when the ball hits the net at the other end the referee doesn't give it. It's a really poor decision, it was a great header and if we hadn't won I would've had a few words with him."

The home side began brightly and they were rewarded with the opening goal on 14 minutes. Hythe, who defended poorly at times, failed to clear their lines sufficiently following a cross and Tom Hickman threaded a well-struck drive low into the corner from 20 yards.

Hythe responded well and found an equaliser just before the half-hour mark. Martin Chandler's attempted cross drifted goalwards and Faversham goalkeeper Rob French

Faversham Town starting XI



Subs used: Sinden (Luchford 34), Bottrell (Smissen 64), Ellett (Collier 84)

slipped as he caught the ball, which crossed the line.

Faversham were furious not to go in ahead at the break when Shearer's header appeared to cross the line, but the referee waved away the protests.

The home fans did not have long to wait for a second goal, which arrived seven minutes into the second-half. Dale Skelton's cross picked out Sinden, who reacted first to tap home after his initial shot was tipped on to the post.

Hythe rarely looked like grabbing an equaliser until Cook's effort four minutes from time which hit the post. Defeat left them 22 points behind the leaders, albeit with five games in hand.

Faversham turn their attention to the Kent Senior Trophy this weekend and a semi-final at home to Deal Town. Damian Abel, who missed last weekend's clash with flu, should be fit to return, while Dane Luchford may be rested after coming off on Saturday with a thigh strain.

RUGBY



EQUALISER: Neil Hodgkinson kept Bourne in the cup

Vigo brushed aside as Bourne return to form in the league

Sittingbourne 16 Vigo 6

ROB McNamara scored twice as Sittingbourne got their league season back on track with a comfortable win against Vigo at The Grove.

In the absence of skipper Scott Truss, McNamara captained the home side and Bourne started the stronger, taking a deserved lead courtesy of a Mark Penny penalty.

Vigo appeared to be galvanised by the set-back but Bourne's defence held firm and they were next to strike when an attacking line-out brought the first try of the day.

Hooker Chris Shepherd was held up just short of the line but McNamara was on hand to scoop up the loose ball and dive over to put Sittingbourne 8-0 in front.

Once more, Vigo fought back but their pressure went unrewarded and the hosts held their lead through until half-time.

Two penalties for the visitors early in the second period reduced the arrears to 8-6, but still the Sittingbourne defence stood strong and another Penny penalty eased the pressure.

McNamara then settled things with a superb late individual try, setting off from his own half and crashing through four tackles before accelerating to the line and touching down.

Extra-time

Bourne's league success was followed by cup progress on Sunday, although their Kent Vase tie at Kent 2 side Orpington had to be decided on the toss of a coin after the game finished 3-3.

In appalling conditions, Orpington led 3-0 at half-time and Sittingbourne only levelled in the last minute when Neil Hodgkinson kicked a last-minute penalty.

After 20 minutes of extra-time had failed to separate the sides, stand-in Bourne skipper Matt Fender called correctly to see his side through to the last four.

On Saturday, Sittingbourne face Gillingham Anchorians in Kent 1 knowing a win could take them third, although Anchorians will leapfrog them if they win.

LEAGUE TABLE

(Not including midweek games)

RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Croydon Athletic	26	16	6	4	+31	54
2 Folkestone Inv (-10)	27	19	5	3	+21	52
3 Worthing	28	16	3	9	+16	51
4 Fleet Town	28	15	4	9	+17	49
5 Walton & Hersham	28	14	6	8	+10	48
6 Godalming Town	25	15	3	7	+15	45
7 Burgess Hill Town	28	11	9	8	+7	42
8 Sittingbourne	25	12	5	8	+16	41
9 Horsham YMCA	30	10	11	9	+7	41
10 Leatherhead	26	11	4	11	+9	37
11 Dulwich Hamlet	28	9	10	9	0	37
12 Ramsgate	28	9	10	9	-2	37
13 Merstham	29	10	7	12	-10	37
14 Chatham Town	29	11	3	15	-12	36
15 Metropolitan Police	26	9	8	9	+10	35
16 Whyteleafe	28	10	5	13	+2	35
17 Corinthian Casuals	28	10	3	15	-11	33
18 Chipstead	29	8	6	15	-13	30
19 Walton Casuals	29	6	6	17	-18	24
20 Whitstable Town	26	7	2	17	-33	23
21 Eastbourne Town	29	4	10	15	-29	22
22 Ashford Town	26	4	8	14	-33	20

KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

1 Faversham Town	21	17	2	2	+39	53
2 Herne Bay	17	13	1	3	+19	40
3 Hythe Town	16	9	4	3	+26	31
4 Beckenham Town	19	9	4	6	+12	31
5 Erith & Belvedere	20	9	4	7	-2	31
6 Sevenoaks Town	17	8	4	5	+6	28
7 Erith Town	18	8	4	6	+6	28
8 Greenwich Borough	18	7	5	6	+3	26
9 Deal Town	16	7	4	5	+3	25
10 Sporting Bengal Utd	23	7	4	12	-27	25
11 Tunbridge Wells	19	5	7	7	-6	22
12 Holmesdale	18	6	2	10	-3	20
13 Norton Sports	15	5	1	9	-8	16
14 Fisher	20	3	4	13	-25	13
15 Corinthian	20	3	3	14	-26	12
16 Lordswood	18	1	7	10	-21	10

FIXTURES (Saturday): Ryman Division One South: Dulwich Hamlet v Sittingbourne. Kent League Premier Division: Norton Sports v Erith Town. Kent Senior Trophy semi-final: Faversham Town v Deal Town



FOURSOME DISPLAY: Aaron Glass netted four goals as Gore Court kept their hopes of promotion alive

Touch of Glass keeps Court in race for a promotion spot

HOCKEY

Gore Court 5 Winchester 3

GORE Court remain in the hunt for promotion from South Hockey Premier Division Two, but their hopes hang by a thread after a mixed weekend.

Sunday's win at home to Winchester went some way to making up for Saturday's 6-0 mauling at the hands of West Hampstead, but Court missed the opportunity to close the gap on leaders Barnes, who lost 7-2 at Milton Keynes.

Court were full of running from the start on Sunday and showed great commitment levels to take on a solid Winchester team. The hosts dominated the first-half and took the lead through Aaron Glass.

Glass then made it two with a well-taken

short corner although some slack marking at the back allowed Winchester to get back into the game with Tom Fisher's far post tap-in.

However, Court continued to play the better hockey and a good poacher's goal from Jamie Brook restored the two-goal advantage before Colin French stole in to make it 3-2.

French then scored his second of the afternoon to level the game early in the second-half, but from that point it was all one-way traffic as Court proceeded to dominate. Glass struck twice more from set-pieces, taking him to 38 for the season and handing Court a 5-3 win.

Saturday's defeat at Hampstead saw Court create early chances but concede four first-half goals and two more late on to complete a miserable afternoon.

They now sit fourth and face a crucial game against third-placed London Wayfarers on Saturday.

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